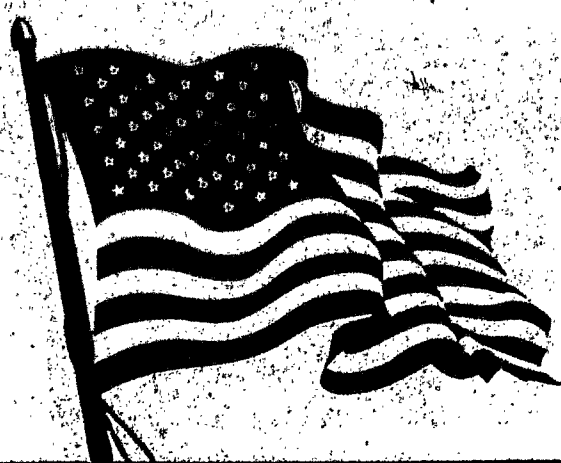


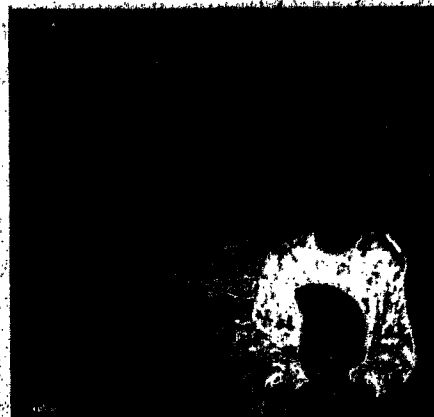
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Lady Tigers claw the competition

The No. 1-ranked Bay High Lady Tigers score another victory.

Sports, Page 13A



Family with 32 (yes, that's 32) kids gets ready for the holidays – and a brand new home.

Community, Page 1B

The Sea Coast Echo

Since 1892

VOL. 111, NO. 98 BAY ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI

WWW.SEACOASTECHO.COM

TWO SECTIONS, 28 PAGES

75 CENTS

Sunday
Dec. 22, 2002

Libraries closed for Christmas Eve, Day

All Hancock County Library System branches will be closed on Tuesday and Wednesday in observance of the holiday, but will be open during regular hours on Monday and Thursday.

Garbage collection holiday schedule

Trash collection in Hancock County will be on a holiday schedule this week, with regular pickup on Monday and Tuesday. There will be no pickup on Wednesday, Christmas Day, but will observe Wednesday's usual route on Thursday; Thursday's on Friday; and Friday's on Saturday.

St. Clare schedules holiday masses

St. Clare Church will observe mass on Christmas Eve at 4 p.m. and 10 p.m.; Christmas Day at 10 a.m.; New Year's Eve, 4 p.m.; New Year's Day, 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

WHAT'S INSIDE

Editorial Page 4A
Obituaries Page 12A
Sports Page 13A
Classified Pages 10-13B

TIDES
HIGH LOW
Tues. 2:25 a. 1:55 p.
Wed. 2:55 a. 1:49 p.
Thurs. 12:04 a. 12:40 p.
Fri. 8:33 p.
Sat. 8:06 p. 7:39 a.
Sun. 8:22 p. 7:17 a.

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DeLisle DuPont suit filed in Jones County

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Twenty-one hundred local residents will soon be getting their day in court. On Friday afternoon, a national team of lawyers including Kathleen Smiley and Al Hopkins from Mississippi, Michael Fenasci of Louisiana, John Romano of Florida and the firm of Baron

and Budd from Texas filed suit against the I.E. DuPont de Nemours Corporation and a host of other plaintiffs in the Circuit Court of Jones County, Mississippi, Second Judicial District, in the city of Laurel. The DuPont plant, located in DeLisle, produces Titanium Dioxide.

Also named as an alleged cause of toxic chemical pollu-

tion in the area is Ingram Industries, who operated a munitions plant in Kiln in the early 1970's.

The suit was able to be filed in Jones County because one of the defendants does business in that county.

For over two years, Smiley and her team have been

DUPONT-PAGE 10A



A view of the DuPont plant at DeLisle, from across the Bay of St. Louis.

Echo file photo

Blue Light Special



Waveland Police Department sponsored its second annual "Shop With A Cop" on Saturday at the Waveland Kmart. More than 30 kids were treated to a shopping spree. Pictured with some of the kids are Officer Mike Ellington and Officer Michael Prendergast.

Waveland police invite children to 'Shop with a Cop'

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
STAFF WRITER

Cops like to have fun too and on Saturday a group of Waveland policemen had almost as much fun Christmas shopping as the kids they escorted. The Waveland Police Department's second annual "Shop With A Cop" program gave over 30 local children a chance to enjoy Christmas this year.

Officers and kids gathered at the Waveland Kmart on Saturday morning to be issued \$50 gift cards by Santa Claus. Each officer took charge of three or four children and escorted them on a shopping spree through

SHOP-PAGE 10A



Waveland Police Dept. Sgt. Brent Anderson helps kids get ready to shop at the Kmart on Saturday. Afterward, the kids and the officers had lunch at Coconuts at the Holiday Inn. Anderson is the organizer of the event.

Board votes itself a raise

Former Waveland candidates blast salary increase

BY GEOFF BELCHER
News Editor

The new Waveland Board of Aldermen got another taste of criticism Wednesday evening when board members unanimously voted to give themselves – and Mayor Tommy Longo and some city employees – substantial raises.

Every four years, the board must review and decide at that time whether to change pay scales.

Aldermen raised their own annual salaries from \$7,800 to \$12,000. Longo's salary went from \$40,000 to \$48,500.

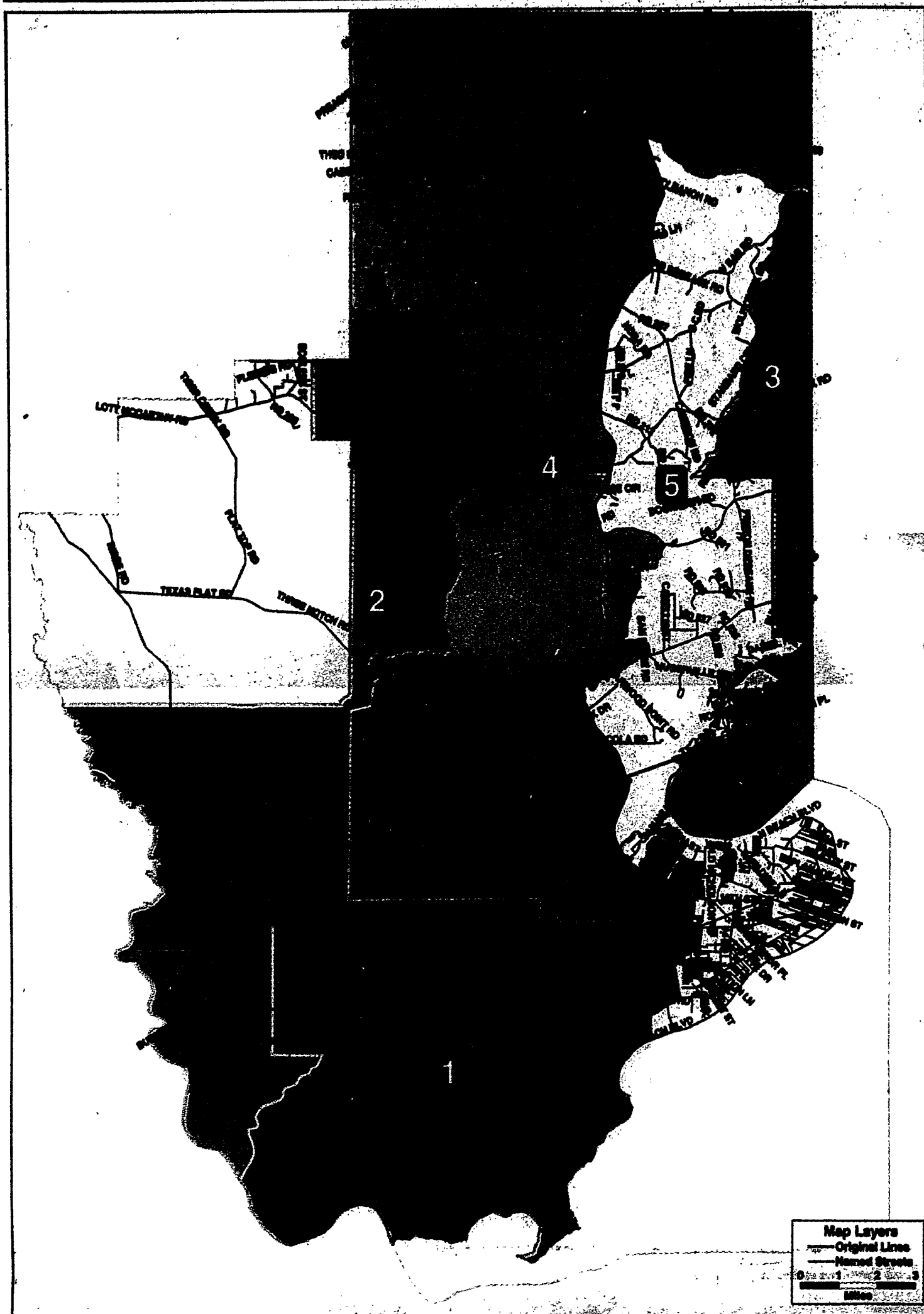
WAVELAND--PAGE 8A

Stennis employment services coming here

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Good news for Hancock County – starting on Jan. 1, the county employment office will be the primary location for the posting of jobs available at Stennis Space Center. Supervisors and others questioned the judgment of the large employer when it decided to locate its primary employ-

STENNIS--PAGE 10A



Above is a map of the new district boundaries for the Hancock County Board of Education, which was approved during the school board's Dec. 18 recess meeting. A public hearing will be set in January for public input; a date will be announced at a later time. The redistricting project will then go before the Hancock County Board of Supervisors for approval before becoming finalized. For more information, call the Hancock County Superintendent of Education's office at 255-0376.

Filmmakers seeking help with Alice Moseley video

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Our very own local legend artist Alice Moseley will soon be the star of her own video, which is being produced by Destination and Educational Videos. The non-profit corporation is in the business of making educational videos which explore aspects of life along the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

The video of Moseley will seek to document her life as a teacher, artist, storyteller, and Bay St. Louis resident, and establish an appreciation both for the heritage that Moseley and her work have brought to the area as well as draw attention to the art community in Bay St. Louis.

The video will feature Moseley in her home/studio/museum in the Bay along with her friend and dog Herman. It will feature

about 20 of her favorite stories, ones she tells to entertain the stream of visitors who frequent her museum each year, to preserve her famous storytelling for future generations.

Five hundred free copies will be distributed to every public and private high school, every university, and every public library system in the State of Mississippi. Additional copies will be given to the city of Bay St. Louis, Hancock Tourism, and the Welcome center. Producers say they have already had requests for the video from around the country.

Videos will also be available through Destination Video's website, museums and at Moseley's home/museum.

To finish the project, producers need a little help raising additional funds, about \$28,000 to complete the piece. Any amount will be appreciated but several levels of funding will begin-

ning at a minimum of \$55 will reserve you a copy of a never before in print, Limited Edition 11 X 14 signed and numbered print from Moseley entitled "If Only the Past Had Been So Bright," in her unique folk art style.

Additional donations will make available signed copies of the video, listing as a friend on the video, personalized photos of Moseley and a chance to give a brief testimonial in a special section of the finished project.

The project will be done in stages and has already begun. Producers plan to finish this next year. The project is supported by Alice, her son Tim, the City of Bay St. Louis, the Hancock County Tourism Development Board, and many others who love and support Moseley's work.

If you would like to help contact Janie O'Keefe at 228-217-6920 or visit the website at gulfcoast@destination-videos.com.

Kiln Christmas Parade scheduled for Sunday

The VFW Kiln Memorial Post No. 6285 and Ladies Auxiliary will host the 9th Annual Cowboy Parade and Children's Christmas Party on Sunday, December 22nd. The parade will begin at noon at the home of Robert Moran in Kiln. The parade will end at the Kiln VFW around 2:00PM, with a visit from Santa.

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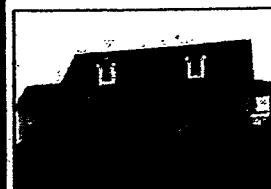
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\$600	\$7,200	\$14,400	\$36,000
\$650	\$7,800	\$15,600	\$39,000
\$700	\$8,400	\$16,800	\$42,000
\$750	\$9,000	\$18,000	\$45,000
\$800	\$9,600	\$19,200	\$48,000
\$850	\$10,200	\$20,400	\$51,000
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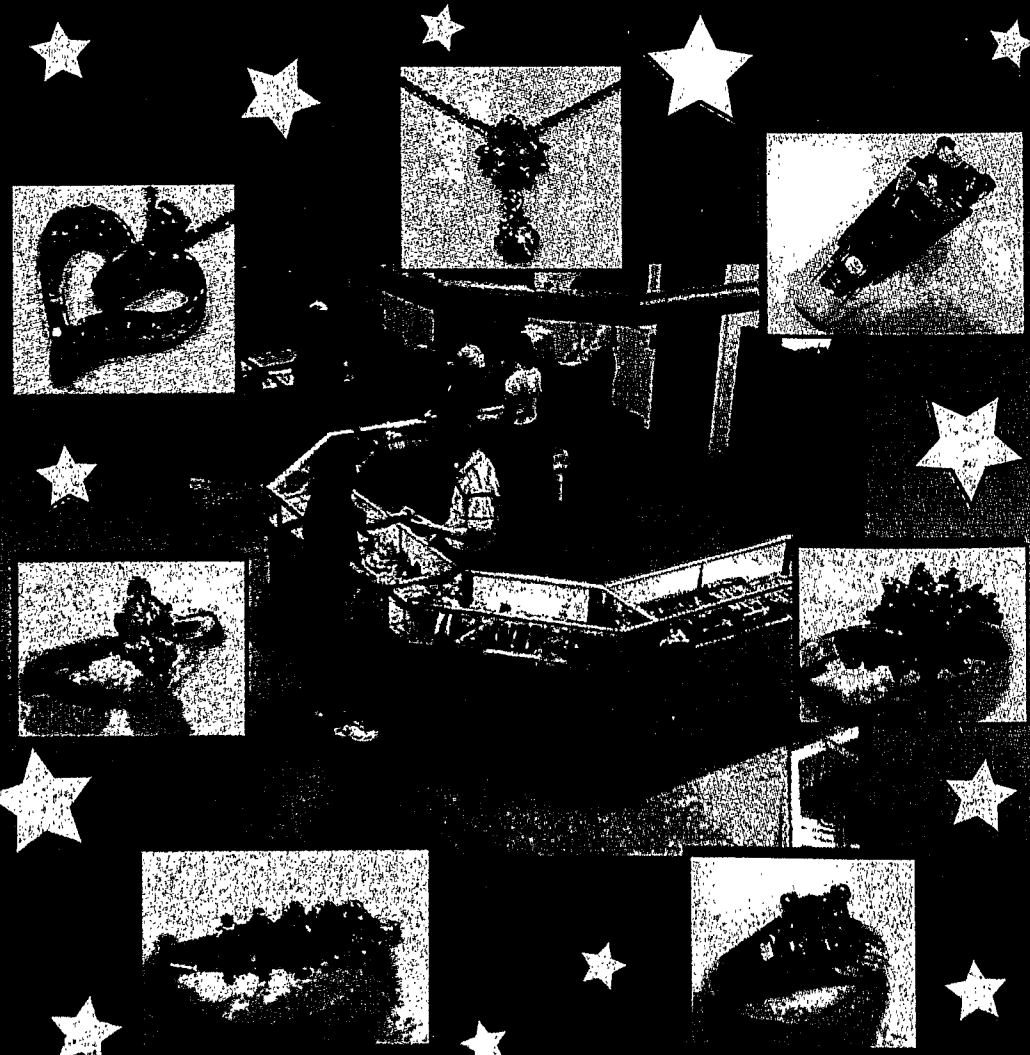
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Arrests

Editor's note: The following are arrests logged by the Hancock County Sheriff's Office from December 18 through December 21, 2002. The following are indicative of the record that has been made.

ECHO STAFF

- Bobby F. ...
- Robin J. ...
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- Billy W. ...
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- Ricky O. ...
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- Melissa ...
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- Danny B. ...
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- Robert F. ...
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Arrest Record

Editor's note: The following is a complete list of arrests logged at the Hancock County Justice Facility from Dec. 12 through Dec. 19. Appearance on the jail log is not indicative of guilt, merely a record that an arrest has been made.

ECHO STAFF REPORT

- Bobby F. Gray, 38, contempt of court (warrant)
- Robin Joiner E. West, 40, disorderly conduct, DUI (1st), refused test, careless driving, suspended driver's license
- Billy W. Green, 21, contributing to delinquency of minor
- Lyndse N. Bourgeois, 18, disorderly conduct, public drunk, resisting arrest
- Nichlos Schwartz, 33, disorderly conduct
- Jeremy Fountain, 22, hold for Biloxi
- Chelsea Caldwell, 18, simple possession in a school
- Ricky O. Coles, 49, disorderly conduct
- Melissa A. Wesner, 33, simple assault (warrant)
- Danny Brockington, 31, resisting arrest by flight, disorderly conduct
- Robert Earl Fields, 32, disturbance of the peace (warrant)
- Christopher Mohr, 18, shoplifting

- Joseph Williams, 20, simple possession of marijuana
- Brian K. Benton, 37, DUI (2nd), no proof of insurance, driving with suspended driver's license
- David Allan Cookfair, 45, DUI (1st)
- James M. Freson, 51, suspended driver's license, DUI (1st)
- Bryan M. Dulworth, 19, shoplifting, contempt of court (failure to appear, failure to pay) (warrant)
- Joe Tague, 74, DUI (1st)
- Kirt A. Strong, 38, simple assault (domestic)
- Robert E. Thompson, 46, public drunk, disorderly conduct, resisting arrest
- David Everhart, 44, DUI (1st), driving on suspended driver's license
- John A. Bishop, 28, simple assault (domestic), public drunk
- Paige Powell, 32, disorderly conduct
- Brian Hoda, 24, DUI (1st), no insurance
- Fabian Collins, 26, DUI (1st), refused test, false information to police, speeding, suspended driver's license
- Preston R. Stephens, 33, simple assault (domestic)
- David Everhart, 44, public drunk, disorderly conduct (failure to comply)
- Frances P. Lala, 46,

- speeding, DUI (1st)
- Tabitha J. Heitzmann, 21, contempt of court (failure to pay)
- Matthew C. Clark, 23, (warrant), contempt of court, driving with driver's license suspended, DUI, no insurance
- Ronald W. Stiglett, 46, contempt of court (failure to appear)
- Laura L. Touns, 43, hitchhiking, public drunk
- Dawn Mix, 36, contempt of court, disorderly conduct (warrant)
- Edwin P. Burley, 41, driving on suspended driver's license
- Jeremy Ryan Guidroz, 18, DUI (1st), disorderly conduct
- Donald H. Voss Jr., 47, careless driving, DUI (1st)
- Anthony M. Dailey, 20, simple possession of marijuana, public intoxication, disorderly conduct (failure to obey), possession of controlled substance with intent, resisting arrest by flight
- Adrian Whavers, 27, simple assault (domestic)
- John O. Pfeiffer, 28, parole violation (warrant)
- John C. Preston, 77, DUI (1st)
- Derrick Anthony Gebbia, 21, (warrant), parole violation, aggravated assault on police officer, sale of controlled substance

- Otis Jones, 39, suspended driver's license, contempt of court (warrant)
- Melissa Billings, 26, shoplifting
- Zelda A. Welch, 34, two counts credit card fraud
- Reggie Forrest, 34, parole violation, original charge — transfer of controlled substance
- Quinten E. Polk Jr., 25, (warrant) failure to yield, reckless driving, contempt of court (failure to appear), suspended driver's license
- Randy Brackett, 47, driver's license suspended, DUI, no insurance, careless driving, refused test
- Richard Homrig-hausen, 19, burglary, trespassing less than larceny, (warrant)
- James Mills III, 28, (warrant), simple assault, malicious mischief
- Walter Cox, 44, public drunk, simple possession
- Anthony J. Kirsch Jr., 35, DUI (1st)
- Randy D. Brackett, 47, failed to register as sex offender
- Travis J. Crawford, 25, (warrant), parole violation, original charge — transfer of controlled substance

Editor's note: Kelly Jordan, who was listed in the Arrest Record in last week's Echo, was not arrested.

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The Gift of Life



Steve Seymour, Kelly Cannon, David Strong, Mark Breland and Jimmie Ladner recently donated \$1,600 to the American Cancer Society and \$500 to the American Heart Association to celebrate their own respective birthdays. All of the men said they wanted to raise the funds because they've all had friends or family who were afflicted with cancer. They also thanked their families and friends for supporting their efforts to raise money and awareness for the American Cancer Society. Also pictured are David Mayley, chairman for the 2003 Relay for Life; Jamie Pierson; and Melanie Mitchell.

DUI blitz goes state-wide

BY ELLIS C. CUEVAS
 Publisher Emeritus

The Hancock County Sheriff's Department has joined the Mississippi Law Enforcement Liaison Office and the Mississippi Highway Safety program's DUI blitz December 20 through January 5, Sheriff Steve Garber reports.

The program is designed to keep Mississippi's highways and roadways safer by sheriff's departments participating in checkpoints, saturation patrols and

encourages officers on routine patrols to adopt a heightened awareness of DUIs.

Lt. Ray Billeaud, Hancock County's Sheriff's Department DUI officer said, "The DUI blitz continues through January 5, and the department will have extra patrols on the roads and place emphasis on DUI checks."

"The DUI blitz during the holiday season is one Hancock County has participated in in previous years, and it is important for

motorist not to drink and drive. It seems that during the holidays because of parties, etc., there tends to be more DUIs on the roads and highways," Billeaud added.

Garber said, "Drinking and driving is a very serious matter, and it is highly recommended that if someone is drinking for them to have a designated driver and not to get behind the wheel of a vehicle."

"Our job is to look after the safety of all residents," Garber said.

Daily oyster sack limit lowered

THE SEA COAST ECHO

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (DMR) has adjusted the commercial daily sack limit for tonging or dredging to 30 sacks per licensed vessel beginning at legal sunrise, Saturday, Dec. 21, 2002. This limit shall remain in effect until further notice.

For more information on the open and closed areas, call the DMR's 24-hour

Oyster Information Hot Line at (228) 374-5167 or 1-800-385-5902.

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NOTICE

The following Waveland City Hall Offices are temporarily moving next door into the City Hall Annex at 307 Coleman Avenue.

The Building / Zoning / Personnel and Privilege License Departments will be located upstairs in the rear of the building.

The Public Works Department (Water / Gas / Sewer) will be located downstairs in the same building.

Directional signs will be installed for assistance.

This new location will open for business beginning 12/30/2002 and remain open during the renovation of the City Hall.

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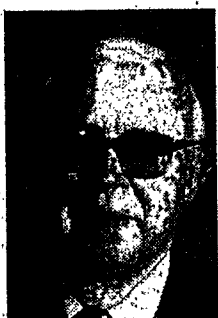
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ONLY 20 MINUTES FROM SLIDELL!

OPINION

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2002

pg 4A



Cuevas' Quotes

by Ellis C. Cuevas
Publisher Emeritus

Don't miss the Kiln Cowboy Parade

The residents of Kiln will get into the Christmas spirit this afternoon when the VFW Kiln Memorial Post No. 6285 and Ladies Auxiliary will host the 9th annual Cowboy Parade and Children's Christmas Party.

The parade begins at noon at the home of Robert Moran in Kiln and will feature horses, riders, and buggies. It is scheduled to arrive about 2 p.m. at the Kiln VFW.

All horses and wagons are invited to participate in the parade, however negative coggins documentation must be provided.

For further details, contact Moran at 255-6729.

I realize I am from another generation, but there are times I feel my generation had better ways of handling their children's behavior.

I read with interest the comments made by Kiln Volunteer Fire Chief Scott Bilbo and other volunteers about the time and money wasted on several bomb threats at Hancock High.

As a former member of the volunteer fire fighters for the Town of Waveland - you note it was not event a city yet - bomb threats were items we did not have to deal with.

For one thing, if a youngster did such a deed back then, there would have been no need for a Juvenile Officer, a Youth Court Judge, or anyone else to handle the situation.

The culprit's parents would have taken control of the situation, and the responsible youngster would have had a serious problem sitting for several days. Parents were responsible for the actions of their kids, and I feel the same should be today.

If costs for all agencies responding to situations, such as a bomb threat at a school, would fall on the parents' shoulders, I am sure there would be fewer bomb threats.

Hopefully, since the juvenile nabbed for the recent bomb threats spent the Thanksgiving holidays in custody, he may think twice before he pulls such a prank again.

Over the years at The Echo we have received a few telephone calls of complaint about cartoons appearing on the editorial page.

The cartoons The Echo now publishes, are syndicated and appear in many newspapers across the state.

Cartoons are opinions of the author and not necessarily those of Publisher Randy Ponder.

Just as everyone does not agree with published editorials or syndicated columns, cartoons are opinions, and not everyone agrees with them.

Santa's looking for a few good lawyers

BY WYATT EMERICH
Guest Columnist

Santa Claus is coming to town, but he is having to take special precautions when he comes to Mississippi.

"I have been advised by my in-house legal staff that the litigation environment in Mississippi poses certain risks to my delivery operation," Santa said yesterday at the North Pole.

Santa's legal staff has warned that landing on roofs may incur liability.

"We take every precaution not to damage people's roofs, but sometimes the hoofs of the reindeer can scuff up some shingles," Santa said, adding that this can create grounds for a lawsuit.

Santa's legal advisors

said his North Pole operation is happy to settle any legitimate claims, but it is fear of punitive damages that has every one on edge.

"With the punitive thing, the plaintiffs' attorneys are arguing that we damaged the roofs with reckless disregard and intentional action," said Mary Holladay, a partner at the law firm of Donner Prantzer Blitzen and Cupid.

"They will argue that we are continuing to land on roofs even though we know that we may cause damage," Holladay said.

"This creates a problem because the jury wants to know why we haven't altered our delivery practices in response."

Santa is well aware of the problem but believes land-

ing on roofs is necessary to ensure that the children don't detect his presence.

"We really feel like knocking on the front door ruins the surprise and hurts the Christmas tradition. We are trying to work with our attorneys and arrive at a solution."

One possibility is insisting that all the children agree to arbitration when they send their wish list to Santa.

"With arbitration, we are able to keep our legal costs down and this helps us give better presents," Santa said, acknowledging that asking five-year-olds to sign arbitration agreements kind of puts a damper on the old Christmas spirit.

One problem that Santa has faced is going into cer-

tain counties with a reputation as legal hotbeds. His legal staff has advised him to just dump the presents on the ground from the air rather than touch the soil.

"They are telling me that the minute the reindeer touch down, I am liable for billions in damages," Santa said.

Roof damage is just one of many legal pitfalls facing Santa's operation. Other areas of liability include chimney damage, dangerous toys and unauthorized breaking and entering.

"We simply can't get written permission from every single household to enter on Christmas night," Santa said. "That would be logistically impossible."

SANTA--PAGE 5A

ENDANGERED SPECIES IN THE DEEP SOUTH THE DEMOCRAT GOVERNOR (RONNIA MUSGROVIA)



STILL FOUND IN MISSISSIPPI, BUT NOT LOUISIANA, ALABAMA OR GEORGIA. FEEDS OFF UNIONS AND TRIAL LAWYERS, AT RISK BECAUSE NESTING AREA IS BEING RUN OVER BY AN ELEPHANT STAMPEDE.

Lott responds to recent controversy

Editor's note: The following was submitted prior to Sen. Lott's announcement last week that he would not seek to hold the position of Senate Majority Leader.

Remarks of Senate Republican Leader Trent Lott at a press conference.
Segregation, is a stain on our nation's soul. There is no other way to describe it. It represents one of the lowest moments in our nation's history, and we can never forget that.

I grew up with segregation. I grew up in an environment that condoned policies and views that we know were wrong and immoral and I repudiate them.

Let me be clear, segregation and racism are immoral. I have seen what it did to families, to schools, and to communities. I have seen personally the destruction it has wrought on the lives of

good people. I know personally what it means to talk about the harms of segregation.

The President was right when he said that every day our nation was segregated was a day that America was unfaithful to our founding ideals.

I lived through the troubled times in the South, and along with the South, I have learned from the mistakes of our past.

I have asked and am asking for people's forbearance and forgiveness as I continue to learn from my own mistakes and as I continue to grow as both a person and a leader.

With regard to my remarks about Strom Thurmond: Strom is a friend, a colleague, and conservative who came to understand the evil of segregation and the wrongness of his own views.



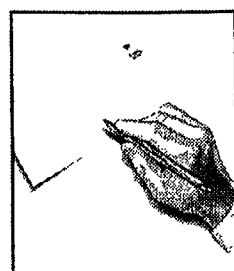
From the Senate

By U.S. Sen. Trent Lott

Letters to the Editor

Our letters policy

The Sea Coast Echo welcomes comments from its readers. Letters must be signed and include address or telephone number. Letters should be brief, preferably typewritten and double-spaced. Only one letter per writer per month. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject letters. Letters of thanks, expressions of appreciation and political endorsements are inappropriate.



Christmas lights are nice, but don't all work

Dear Editor:

I wish to complement the City on the Christmas lights along Beach Boulevard from Hwy. 90.

They add so much to the seasonal atmosphere and provide a warm invitation to our visitors as they approach Old Town.

My question is, why do they put them up if they don't work? As late as the week following Thanksgiving, in a letter to the Mayor, I asked why these light don't work:

* Carroll and Beach Blvd.
* Bay View and Beach Blvd.

By the way, the same lights were out during the entire Christmas season of 2001.

I did hear from the Mayor's office - "We have passed it on to the appropriate department."

The question remains, will these lights be turned on by New Year?

Regards,
David S. Clifford
Bay St. Louis

The Sea Coast Echo

USPS 487-100

Published Thursday and Sunday each week at 124 Court Street, Bay St. Louis, MS. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2009, Bay St. Louis, MS 39521-2009.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Sea Coast Echo, P.O. Box 2009, Bay St. Louis, MS 39521-2009. Periodical postage paid at Bay St. Louis, MS.

Phone (228) 467-5474



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BY MAIL

Hancock County, Pass Christian,
Perkinston, Picayune,
Long Beach and Service Personnel.....\$45.00 per year
All Other Subscriptions.....\$70.00 per year

HOME DELIVERY

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and Diamondhead.....\$45.00 per year

110th Year of Publication

Member of the Mississippi Press Association
and the National Newspaper Association

We recommend to subscribers that pre-payments made directly to carriers be limited to a maximum of 30 days. Your newspaper carrier is an independent contractor, and payments by subscribers are not subject to control by The Sea Coast Echo. The publisher maintains the right to reject or edit any submitted matter.

LOTT--PAGE 5A

THE SEA

Santa

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Santa -- a litigious Christmas

Continued from Page 4A

The chill on Christmas started last year when Santa was served papers for a \$5.9 trillion dollar suit because a young child fell off his bike and scraped his knee.

"My heart goes out to that child," Santa said. "I know how hard it is to learn to ride a bike, but I really don't think that little girl had billions in pain and suffering."

Santa should thank his blessings. Originally, the suit was filed for \$5.9 gazillion dollars, but the local judge said there were too many zeros to fit on the legal notice and demanded that the attorney knock off a few.

In addition to property damage and product liability suits, Santa has begun to get suits from children who say he violated his Christmas Day contractual

obligations by not bringing every single item on their Christmas list.

Santa had this to say about that: "If these boys and girls had been as nice as they had told me in their letters, I might have brought all the toys on their wish list, but my legal counsel informs me that I have no fiduciary responsibility to bring toys to naughty boys and girls."

One suit involved two young children: Sue N. Jefferson and her brother Holmes. They argued that Santa's failure to bring all the presents they wanted created low self esteem and mental anguish. They are demanding that Santa bring them whatever they want for as long as they want it.

Santa wanted to appeal to the Mississippi Supreme Court but they said he first

had to post a \$5 billion bond, more than Santa could afford.

"Hey, it cost money to listen to all these gripes from businessmen like Santa, not to mention all the time to figure out different ways to twist the law," said a court spokesman.

A spokesman for the Mississippi plaintiffs' attorney defended the state's legal climate. "The North Pole is a billion dollar operation. The should be ashamed of exploiting the desires of young children. Nobody should have the right to come down to our state and whip up the hopes and dreams of innocent and helpless children."

The plaintiffs' spokesman said if it weren't for the lawyers, there's no telling how much abuse Santa Claus would perpetrate on the poor children of

Mississippi.

One reporter asked the plaintiffs' spokesman if it was true that attorneys take 40 percent of all Santa's toys, after expenses, in fees for the cases they represent.

"Saving the poor from Santa's excesses doesn't come cheap," he said. "These lawsuits involve lots of lunches at expensive restaurants discussing new strategies and entertaining judges," he said.

Santa said not to worry, he is not going to let a legal system running wild put an end to Christmas. Good boys and girls will be receiving their toys.

"But naughty boys and girls won't be getting presents," Santa said with a wink, referring to the new tort reform package passed overwhelmingly by the state legislature.

Lott -- 'I'm sorry'

Continued from Page 4A

He's said as much himself. Last week, I was privileged to join with hundreds of others to honor him.

But let me be clear. In celebrating his life, I did not mean to suggest in any way that his segregationist views of 50 years ago were justified or right. Segregation was immoral then and it is wrong now.

By the time I came to know Strom Thurmond - 40 years after he ran for President - Strom himself had long since renounced these repugnant views.

That said, I apologize for reopening old wounds and hurting so many Americans.

I take full responsibility for my remarks and only hope that people will find in their heart to forgive me for this grievous mistake.

Not only have I seen the destruction wrought by the racist and immoral policies of the past, I will do everything in my power to ensure that we never go back to that kind of society again.

There may be disagreement on the best ways to

ensure that every American of every color has a fair and equal chance at life, but our goals are the same:

1. A color-blind society where every American has an equal opportunity to succeed.

2. An end to entrenched poverty and joblessness that have plagued minority communities.

3. A good education for every child that gives them a real chance for a good life and that rejects the soft racism of low expectations.

4. Strict enforcement of the civil rights laws on the books to guarantee

equality and punish racism.

Government does best when it helps people help themselves. Human dignity is found not in a handout but in being able to do for one's self.

Government should be about giving people a real chance to do for themselves. I believe this because I have lived it. My father was a sharecropper and a shipyard worker who only went to the 9th grade, and my mother was a public school teacher. I was their only son and the first to earn a graduate degree.

I am humbled by the

American dream because I have lived the American dream. To those who believe I was implying that this dream is for some and not for all, I truly apologize.

In the days and months to come, I will dedicate myself to undo the hurt I have caused and will do all that I can to contribute to a society where every American has an equal opportunity to succeed.

As a man of faith, I have read the Bible all of my life. I now fully understand the Psalm that says: "a broken spirit: a contrite and humbled heart." Psalm 51:17

American Legion to host New Year's Extravaganza

THE SEA COAST ECHO

American Legion Post 77 will host a New Year's Eve Extravaganza at the post home, 208 Coleman Ave., from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. The event is open to everyone. BYOB.

The Legion will supply ice and setups, hats and noise makers.

There will also be a balloon drop, with varying amounts of cash up to \$100 hidden in some of the balloons.

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Letters to Santa

NORTH BAY First Grade

Dear Santa,
I would like a baby sister for Christmas. Not just for me but for Mom and Dad and Trevor because they all want a baby.

Travis Wilson

Dear Santa,
I would like a army set and sum walky talky and a four wheeler for my sister and a dirt bike for my dad, a star for the tree and some books for me to read, sports books and a bags of bones for my dogs and a blue forwheeler and some forwheeler gloves and a new helmet and a new toy forwheeler a orange toy forwheeler and sum work gloves and a green bay hat and a helmet.

Patrick Cuevas

Dear Santa,
I love a doll house with a bed with a tub and soap and phon by it and food. I would also like a gingerbread man.

Charionda

Dear Santa,
I would like a perpunzal doll and a barbie car and shoes, a kitten and a bird and a rabbit.

Jessica Beaugez

Dear Santa,
I would like a fourwheeler four Christmas. Please and a dirt bike four Christmas. Please.

Dean

Dear Santa,
I would like a army tank for Christmas and a roking horse for my sister.

And I would like a oragin toy for Christmas and a tunol for my train trak and a wake take for Christmas.

Gavin

Dear Santa,
I have been really good at North Bay. I would like a go-cart, PS2, a bike and some Porkenon cards. Thank you.

Chris Davis

Dear Santa,
I wish you got a gocart for my Xbox and my Play Station 2 and I wish you got me some YO-GI-OH-Cards.

Stanton Guillory

Dear Santa,
Hower is roodoof. Howe is misi cios. How are you today. Ples brang me a new bike and a new skootr with red wheels.

ove, James

Dear Santa,
I have ben a good boy. How have you been? How have your reindeer been? I want the u-go-ho cards and a game cube.

Love, Gabe

NORTH BAY Grades 1, 2 and 3

Dear Santa,
I wish for a great great Christmas. Love all over the world. For Allie Salas to visit. For an art kit to express my feelings. For three snoozers. For a mouse. And for lots of books. And finally for a good chance in fourth grade.

Love, Natalia Bhuiain

Dear Santa,
Would you please bring me a play station II and some Nintedo sixty four games like Spoge Bob square pants and spider man that's all I want for Christmas.

Your Friend,

Conner Saucier

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would like some cloths. I also wanted you to remember Steven and Stephen. They are my freinds. I would like a play station 2. I would also like pokemon cards. Please get me toys also. I would like games.

Love, Houston

Dear Santa,
The only thing I would want for Christmas is for you to visit me and my family.

Thank you, Bri

Dear Santa,
I hope that you have a great Christmas. Do you really have a sister named Auntie Claus?

I want you to enjoy your cookies, carrots and milk. I would like alot more pants if you can get them.

I hope I hear the slight bells ring on your slight. I hope I don't get scared this Christmas at night because I can not sleep.

Sincerely, Sahra El-hamaki

Dear Santa,
I want a desk and a phone I saw at the store. A pink Madd

purse that I saw on base. I hope you enjoy your cookies and milk. I hope you enjoy your Christmas.

I wish that Allie Salas would come back and visit. I want my mom to have whatever she wants.

Love, Deara Narcisse

Dear Santa,
I would like a couple of kittens. One kitting for my brother and a gerble for me.

Your friend, Aubrey

Dear Santa,
Are you real? How does your raindeers fly? I want you to

I have shared with my sister, ate my beans, and went to swimming lessons.

I want doll accessorys for my doll and I.

Dear Santa,
I live in Mississippi Bay St. Louis. My house is in Waveland. I live on Waveland Avenue. I am Amber Galloway.

I hope that you will have toys for kids Santa. I hope that the elevs are doing good with the toys. I want a playstation 2 for Christmas. I want a radio for Christmas. I want a motor Scooter that all I want Santa. I

Elizabeth Nolan. I am eight years old. I go to Bay St. Louis Elementary school. I live in Bay St. Louis Mississippi. I've been a good girl. I shared with my Brother too. Hope your feeling well. My dog has her own stocking. It's even bigger than mine. My cats have small stockings.

I don't know anything I want right now, but I will soon. My dog probably wants a toy or some treats. Hope you can make it.

Love, Ashleigh Nolan

Dear Santa Claus,
I'm Sage. I live in Bay St. Louis, Ms. I want some chapter books like Junie Be Jones books and a toy dinosour.

I've been a good boy. I like to read a whole lot. About your good and bad list. I'm going to be on your good list. I also like to draw. I also want 100 legos. I also want a comuter.

Love, Sage

NORTH BAY 2nd Grade

Dear Santa,
I am happy because it is Christmas. I wish I could see your reindeer flying in the sky. You are happy just like me. Thank you for my presents.

Love, D'Sean Sheppard

Dear Santa,
How is, Miss Claus doing, Santa?
How are you doing, Santa?
I will like to see you. What will you bring to me? I love you Santa! We will give you cookies and milk.

Love your friend, Katie

Dear Santa,
How is your wife doing?
Santa, do you like to be Santa? Santa, do you have a tree? Do you sleep at the North Pole? Where do you sleep? Do you have a son or a daughter? Do you have a daddy? Do you have a mother? Do you have a sister? Do you have a brother?

Love, Gabrielle Marshall

Dear Santa,
I hope evryone is good.
Miss Claus, I hope you are doing good too.
I hope Santa and Miss Claus are doing good. Me Betty and mom are going to be fast asleep. So you can go right down the chimney and give us your new presents.

Love, Devan

Dear Santa,
Thank you for all that you bring to me. You're one of the best holidays.

Love,

Madison Elise Hughes

Dear Santa,
I love the North Pole and your reindeers. I wish I can ride them. I wish I can see the shop and the foys. I wish I can see the world and the sky.

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? Are you doing fine? What are you bringing me for Christmas? I want you to put something under my tree. I'm going to have some cookies and milk out for you.

Your Friend, Aaliyah

give peace and love on earth.

Your friend,

Dear Santa,
I been very good this year. I've helped people. I've held doors for people. I've helped people put up stuff. How have you been?

I hope you haven't been very busie. Are the elfs been? I wish you a merry christmas. I helped my mom when she was sick. I've taken care of my brothers.

I live in Bay Saint Louis, Ms. and in the Kiln. I'm Maggie Hoda last year. I was eight years old last year. This year I'm nine years old. I have blue eyes and blond hair. I like puppies and horses.

I would like a lava lamp, art stuff, photo album, picture frame that says super star and friends forever, gitar, house shoes, kitten poster, puppy poster, CD rack, CP's, makeup, earrings, glass dolls. Love always

Maggie Hoda

Dear Santa,
I am Lindsey Mae Loftin. I am 7 year's old. I am nice. I have some toys.

I have been very good. I've been a Angler. I love christmas. I love you Santa.

Santa I want a chair-reachemshen Bay St. Louise, Ms. I want the CD rock around the clock. I want lots of toys.

Love, Lindsey

Dear Santa,
I am Trevor Strong. I have been verry verry good. I want a new bike. I want a weel for my old bike. I want a Magic tree house books. I want pok'emom cards. How are you this year. I want game boy Avance games. You must be working very hard this year. I want nitendo games. A wite go cart with fire stripes.

Love, Travor Strong

Dear Santa,
I am Christine Denise Kegley. I live in Pass Chrisghan, Mississippi. I haven't been feeling so well. I have been a very good girl.

thanks you for bring me my stuff Santa Clause. I want a car too Santa.

You are a good Santa Clause that bring little girl and boys presents Santa. I enjoy you because you are so much fun and you have a good work shape that you make toys Santa Clause. I want to come and visit you one day because I want to know how your work shapos looks. I would want to know how your house looks Santa Clause Santa. I am a good nice wonderful girl Santa how are you doing with your toys elevs and raindeers.

PS. Alway from Amber to Santa Clause

Dear Santa,
I am Nathaniel. I have been very very good this year. I hope your o.k. I live in Waveland on Water St. I want a Lamborgini remote cotrole car. I want a rabbit. I want a quail. I want a drum set. I want the 8 mail C.D. I want my buldog back. I want a green Lamborgini with slidn doors that go up win I toch a buttin with goldn rims.

Your truly,

frind Nathaniel

Dear Sanata,
I'm Kaileigh Ashton Magee. I live in Bay St. Louis, Ms.

I have two dogs and a grble too. I have a mom, a dad, a bother and two sisters.

I've tried to be good every-where I have gone. I hope you are not sick.

I want books about vets and lots of horse books for 2nd and 3rd. A puppy too. Magic dary and rings. A hors and skechers shoes. A lava lamp and a make-up set. A gitare and a baby teddy bear. A best friend for ever picture frame and a jewer set.

Love, Kaileigh Magee

Dear Santa,
I live in Base Sant Loise. How are you doing I'm doing fine. But I do not know wait else to wright so good by.

Dear Santa,
My name is Ashleigh



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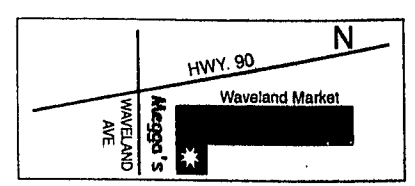
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Burleson completes FBI National Academy

THE SEA COAST ECHO

"For every law enforcement officer who comes up through the trenches the opportunity to attend the FBI Academy is a primary career goal. I had the full support of my chiefs to have the time away from the job to be one of the two men who represented the state of Mississippi and graduated in the 211th Academy Class," said Bay Saint Louis Chief Investigator Tom Burleson.

Attending the Academy, held on-site at the U.S. Marine Corps training center at Quantico, Va., was a long time in coming. Burleson's application was submitted in December 1977. He was accepted as an alternate for the 210th class and scheduled to attend the 21st.

The 11-week school focuses on academic achievement, followed by physical readiness and developing a nationwide crime prevention network.

Burleson took 17 hours of classes, exceeding the 13 minimum hours required by the Academy. His class day was extended by the two to four hours of daily physical training and another four to five hours of study.

The Academy curriculum is designed for mid- to upper-level management skill development. Burleson's major course of study was budget development and grant writing where he was in class from 2-4 hours five days a week.

Burleson said, "This is the area where I had the least experience, so I focused on building my skills to better manage my division and work more closely with the Chief in seeking grants to supplement our crime prevention efforts."

He continued his study attending classes in community policing that has even more significance in day-to-day policing operations following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. Homeland security and community policing have become more intertwined since that time.

"Now, more than ever before, there must be a good dialog between the community and its police. We need the public's full support to be effective agents in their protection. Protection meth-



Tom Burleson

ods must be coordinated among all of our agencies to meet the country's needs," continued Burleson.

Legal issues, forensics and communications completed Burleson's curriculum. Each class enhanced the chief investigators skills.

"Since Tom handles all evidence before it is sent to the state crime lab for analysis and all weapons confiscated, these classes taught him the additional steps investigators can take to better insure the success of prosecution when cases are presented to the Grand Jury.

"He will be working closely with our department's four other crime investigators and two narcotics investigators bringing them up to date on newer more comprehensive evidence gathering and protection methods," said Chief Frank McNeil.

Burleson was the first Hancock County law enforcement officer to attend the FBI Academy. Chief McNeil submitted his general application for the Academy.

Receipt of his application was followed by an intensive interview with Special Agent Bobby Tillman of the FBI's Jackson field office.

Interviews with Burleson's peers, employers and neighbors followed. All background information was evaluated, and Burleson was accepted for the class in January of 2002, four-plus years after applying.

Based on population, Mississippi is allowed only

two positions in each class. The 211th class had 246 students from each of the 50 states and 17 foreign countries.

Attending with Burleson was a Harrison County Sheriff's Department officer.

"My New Year's wish is that our county's Sheriff's Department and the City of Waveland will file applications for someone to represent their departments and

our state at the Academy. Our cities and county are small, but surrounded by three major cities and two of the most heavily traveled transportation corridors in the country. We need equal education to that which is normal to bigger areas. We have to be just as prepared to fight bigger crimes effectively. I will always be grateful for my opportunity provided by the City of Bay Saint Louis," finished

Burleson.

Mayor Eddie Favre said upon Burleson's return, "We are very proud of Tom. He made many personal sacrifices to attend the Academy. He is a dedicated officer and a valued employee of the City of Bay Saint Louis. His success at the Academy, the knowledge with which he returns positions Bay Saint Louis to be effective, successful and pro-active in our law enforcement methods."

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Medical Center**

DMR initiates closed crab season to remove abandoned crab traps

Mississippi's first closed season for crab traps and crab pots begins Jan. 14, 2003 at 6 a.m. The season will reopen Jan. 26, 2003 at 6 a.m.

The closed season for both recreational and commercial crab trap fishing will allow for a derelict trap cleanup and data collection. All crab traps and crab pots must be removed by the trap owner from public waters during the first seven days of the closed season.

Any crab trap or crab pot remaining after sunset on Jan. 20 will be considered abandoned and subject to removal.

During the closed season, crabs may not be harvested from any crab trap or crab pot and crabs must be returned to the water during trap removal.

The Department of Marine Resources (DMR) will remove derelict traps in cooperation with Gulf Coast Research Laboratory (GCRL) and volunteers.

Derelict traps are defined as traps, which are unbuoyed, unmarked and not actively fished. After data is collected the traps will be turned in to a recycling center or a landfill.

"Derelict crab traps can pose a serious navigational hazard to boaters and may be a danger to marine and aquatic life. The closed crab season will allow us to remove these traps from Mississippi's marine waters and collect valuable data about the quantity and type of marine life that may become ensnared in these abandoned traps," said DMR Executive Director William Walker.

The DMR will be sending postcards to all Mississippi licensed recreational and commercial crab trap fishermen notifying them of the closing and requesting their cooperation.

Alabama and Texas have successfully used a closed crab trap and crab pot season to address the derelict trap issue.

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Toys for Tots



The Navy at Stennis Space Center wrapped up its Toys for Tots Drive last week, collecting over \$3,000 in presents for the local children. Members of the Gulfport Marine detachment came to Stennis to collect the toys. Rear Admiral Thomas Q. Donaldson, V, Commander Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command thanked everyone for their hardwork in generating such a mountain of toys. Marine Major Yarsoslaski received the Rear Admiral's hand shake and spoke as to the generosity of the Navy.

Waveland

Continued from Page 1A

Joan Coleman, a mayoral candidate in last November's primaries, questioned the move, pointing out that most of the city's employees were only going to receive an average five percent raise.

"My point is, if there's no money in the city's budget, where are you going to get the money to pay for this," Coleman said.

"Have you considered this, first?"

Longo said the salaries were well in line with the Mississippi Municipal League's guidelines for a city Waveland's size.

He added that, at the beginning of his previous administration, he and three of the four then-aldermen turned down a hefty

pay raise in order to save money for the city.

Ward 1 Alderman Keith Mitchell said "Joan, we could've dropped everyone's salary a dollar or raised everybody's salary a dollar, it doesn't matter. You would've found something to pontificate about."

Coleman said she found Mitchell's remarks both insulting and inappropriate as a city official.

Mitchell defended the raises, saying that Longo deserved the increase because, previously, some city department heads' salaries were substantially higher than his; and that the new aldermen had chosen to take the new raises because they planned to earn them.

"You'll make sure of that," he said.

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Alexander named United Way director

THE SEA COAST ECHO

The United Way of South Mississippi Board of Directors has selected Donna Alexander to fill the position of executive director, recently vacated by Rebecca Montgomery. The board ratified the selection on Monday, December 16, 2002. Alexander will begin working with United Way in February 3, 2003.

Bill McDonough, board president elect stated, "We are very pleased that Ms. Alexander has accepted the position as Executive Director of South Mississippi. The board and staff certainly look forward to working with her. She is imminently qualified for the position and will bring innovative ideas that will benefit the community."

"I am committed to the mission of the United Way and its leadership role in identifying and impacting the human service needs of our community", said Alexander.

Alexander comes to the United Way from Memorial Hospital at Gulfport where she was Coordinator of Physician Recruitment. She served as chairman of

the 1998 United Way campaign for Memorial.

Alexander was Founder and Coordinator for Partners in Education for the San Angelo Independent School District. She assisted in the formation of 24 partnerships with over 320 business volunteers participating. She received the Business & Professional Women's award as Outstanding Woman in Nonprofit Organizations in 1994 and in 1995 she was selected "Leader of the Year" for Leadership San Angelo Alumni Association.

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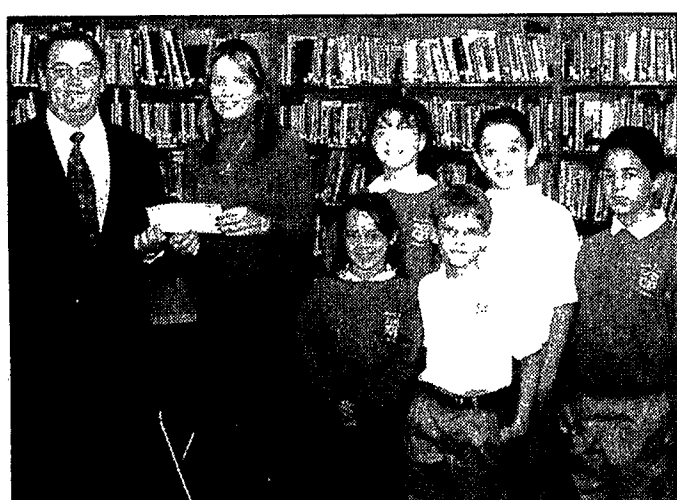
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Vic Dehon, left, presents a check for \$475 to Suzanne Cotter, president of St. Clare Catholic Schools Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). Dehon, general manager of Champion Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep, donated \$5 for each parent or relative of St. Clare that test drove a vehicle at the dealership. Also pictured are (first row) Rachel Forestier, Brandon Odom, (second row) Kaylyn Hall, Billy Cotter and Newman Forestier.

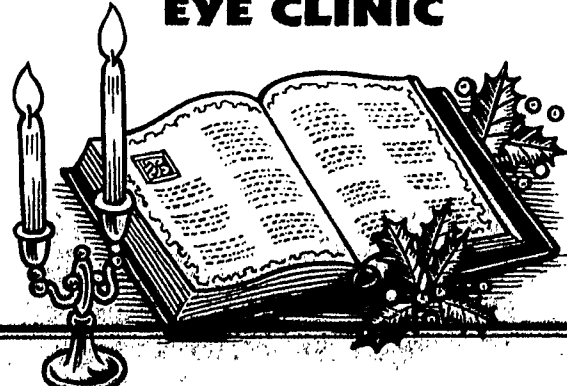
In This Holy Season

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Garden of the Month

The Point Island Garden Club's, Garden of the Month, for November was awarded to Mrs. Maxine Burns at 113 Hillcrest Drive. The Point Island Garden Club held its annual yard and mailbox decoration contest. The judging was Dec. 14. The winners for the mailbox decorations are: First place, Margie Butterworth, 213 Sunset Drive Second, Sylvia Gaffney, 407 Sandy Hook Drive Third, Carol Cunningham, 203 Livingston Drive The winners for the yard decorations are: First, Evelyn Winch, 306 Magnolia Lane Second, James and Laboria Sager, 415 Third Avenue Third, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Bebler, 206 Stennis Street. The garden club placed a Christmas tree in the Hancock County Library for the Holiday Tree Gala. The tree won a blue ribbon in the Community Organizations Division.

Online postal services give holiday mailers more options, convenience

Finding unique holiday gifts, sending seasonal greetings, and shipping those special packages are the traditional challenges of December, along with locating a post office convenient to your busy schedule.

Nowadays, though, if you have a computer with Internet access, you have a post office.

"The services now available on our web site at www.usps.com are amazing," says Pass Christian postmaster Pete McGoe. "For example, we have a new service called Click-N-Ship that will let customers create their own shipping labels and pay for postage online from their home or office, and the number of mailers using it has steadily increased since we introduced it in May."

Click-N-Ship is just one of many options available to customers at www.usps.com. There is also a holiday link that takes customers to other mailing features such as creating

and mailing your holiday greeting cards online, with an option to personalize with uploaded artwork and photos.

Customers who prefer to prepare their own cards but still want a special holiday touch can find a long list of special postmarks available to accent their mailings, such as the popular North Pole, AK, and Santa Claus, IN, just to name a few.

And for those hard to shop for, a selection of philatelic and Postal Cycling items just may fit that elusive gift niche.

"The best advice, even with our improved technology, is still to mail early," says Postmaster McGoe.

"Processing equipment is more efficient than ever before, but it's always a good idea to avoid the crunch days."

The "crunch" of this season's anticipated 20 billion pieces of holiday mail is projected for Monday, Dec. 16, when 850 million pieces will enter the mailstream, near-

ly 22 percent more than an average day.

For those who do find themselves with last minute needs, not to worry. Express Mail service includes delivery even on Christmas Day.

"We still provide the good old-fashioned personal service at our post office," McGoe, "but I encourage all our customers with Internet access to check out our web site at www.usps.com. I believe you'll be pleased and impressed with what you find there."

Veterans of Foreign Wars First District meeting

Veterans of Foreign Wars First District meeting was called to order by First District Commander Rodney Wilkinson Nov. 17.

The meeting was hosted by VFW Post 3373 Pascagoula.

Post Commander Steve Lawrence and Auxiliary President Hazel Lawrence welcomed members and invited all to dinner after the meeting prepared by post and auxiliary members.

VFW State Representative Judge Advocate Willie L. Lindsey from Jackson was introduced and brought greetings.

State Commander Johnnie Richard was introduced, but said he was not there on official business, just as a member of First District.

District Senior Vice President Cindy Schoonmaker introduced State Auxiliary President Ann Marinovich, who introduced the ladies state officers and chairmen.

Schoonmaker opened the ladies' meeting in the absence of District Auxiliary President Shelia Ladner.

In the ladies' meeting Auxiliary Presidents Marie Richards, Post 2132 Gautier; Marie Ward, Post 2432 Biloxi; Jeanette Sweet, Post 2539 Gulfport; Cindy Schoonmaker, Post 2353, Bay St. Louis; Hazel Lawrence, Post 3373 Pascagoula; Marie Edwards, Post 3937 Long Beach;

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society honors volunteers

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS), Gulfport recognized their volunteers for service in 2002 at their Holiday Awards Ceremony held at the Vrazel's in Gulfport Dec. 4.

Throughout the year, 82 NMCRS volunteers donated more than 10,000 hours while serving 5,500 customers, receiving \$12,000 proceeds from the Thrift Shop and providing \$580,000 in interest-free loans and grants to active duty and retired Sailors and Marines and their families.

The NMCRS is a private, non-profit organization sponsored by the Department of the Navy. The Society receives no funding from the government and is not part of any government-funded compensation or assistance program.

Rear Admiral Thomas Q. Donaldson, V, Commander, Navy Meteorological and Oceanographic Command located at Stennis Space Center, praised the volunteers for continuing the tradition of "helping our own" started in 1904 with the founding of the Society.

Captain Brian Kelm, Commanding Officer of Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport and Commodore of the 20th Naval Construction Regiment, noted that the work Society volunteers accomplish gives peace of mind to Sailors and Marines when deployed.

Charlie Gibson, chairman of volunteers, and Chuck Ingraham, director, thanked the volunteers for their service this year and presented hourly service awards as follows:

100 hours - Joan Lacoste and Anita Crafts; 300 hours - Emilie Abell and Sherry Kelm; 500 hours - Fay Baldwin, Leta Brooke, Nicole Kistner and Rowena Young; 600 hours - Fay Baldwin, Brandy Goebel and Nicole Kistner; 1,000 hours - Patricia Jones; 1,500 hours - Charlie Gibson; 2,000 hours - Jerry Ingraham; and 6,000 hours - Darlene Carpenter.

A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Patricia Jones for her work as manager and worker at the Thrift Shop. Additionally, Theresa Frontz, the office assistant, was recognized for completing the Society's rigorous and comprehensive program of certification as a qualified Certified Society Caseworker.

Society volunteers are active duty and retired service persons, their family members and civilians. Immediate openings exist for three caseworkers.

For information on volunteering for the NMCRS, contact Charlie Gibson, chairman of volunteers, or the director, Chuck Ingraham, at Suite 103, Fleet and Family Support Center at the Seabee Base, call 228-871-2610 or e-mail ingraham@glfprt.nmcrcs.org.

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Pearce inducted into Golden Key society

Jessica Lynne Pearce of Waveland has accepted membership in Golden Key International Honour Society and was individually honored during a campus ceremony.

"It is only fitting that a high academic achiever like Jessica be recognized by Golden Key," said Alexander D. Perwich II, Golden Key executive director.

"Our members are inspired and motivated by the challenge not only to be recognized for their outstanding accomplishments but also to make a positive impact on our world through the Society's commitment to service."

Golden Key International Honour Society is a non-profit, academic honors organization that provides academic recognition, leadership opportunities, community service, career networking and scholarships. The Society has more than 300 chapters in the United States, Puerto Rico,

the Virgin Islands, Australia, Canada, Malaysia, South Africa and New Zealand. Membership into the Society is by invitation only to the top 15 percent of juniors and seniors in all fields of study.

Pearce is a senior majoring in criminal justice/juvenile justice with minors in psychology and Spanish. Her GPA is 3.86. She was elected to the National Dean's List in 1999-2000 and 2000-01. She was also named All American Collegiate Scholar in 2000-01.

She is a member of the Gamma Beta Phi Society, Baptist Student Union, American Legion Post 177, and the Criminal Justice Student Organization.

She does volunteer work with the Child Abuse Prevention Center in Hattiesburg and has served on the Baptist Student Union Leadership team and is involved in intramural sports.

Ohr-O'Keefe Museum plans for 'Biloxi Boys'

In planning the upcoming exhibition, "The Biloxi Boys: Joseph Meyer, George Ohr, and Manuel J. Lanivich," the museum is interested in locating any information, papers, photographs, and/or pots by or on these "Biloxi Boys."

If you know about, own or have access to anything that might contribute to the exhibition, please give the

curator of ceramics, Katherine Lochridge, a call at 228-374-5547 x17.

Photographs of downtown Biloxi from c. 1900 would be a great help too.

The Biloxi Boys exhibition will be showcased in the Ohr Gallery, Jan. 31, 2003- Dec. 31, 2003, and is the first-ever-assembled changing exhibition in the Ohr Gallery of The Ohr-

O'Keefe Museum of Art.

The exhibition will feature the work of Newcomb College potter and teacher, Joseph Meyer, and his role as a teacher and the person who introduced George Ohr to pottery.

All three worked in clay, came from Biloxi and their lives/artistic output were intertwined here on the Mississippi Gulf Coast over

a hundred years ago.

Assembled by the Ohr's new curator of ceramics Katherine Lochridge, the exhibition will feature many newly-acquired Meyer and Ohr pots, pottery borrowed from regional and national lenders, original documents/photographs, and will be well-documented with a fully illustrated catalogue

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DuPont -- suit filed

Continued from Page 1A

investigating what many local residents were calling, a cluster of serious and unexplained illnesses among residents who reside primarily in the DeLisle area, or who were employed by the DuPont DeLisle plant. Local retired police officer Pete Jones began a personal investigation even earlier and worked closely with attorneys for a while.

The cause of the illnesses, all parties alleged, was centered around toxic waste produced in the manufacturing processes at the DuPont DeLisle plant. The group was worried about what seemed to be an unusually high rate of cancers and neurological problems, as well as other serious health complaints among residents, employees at the plant and ex-employees.

The Environmental Protection Agency and the state health department reported finding no significant increase or outbreak of illnesses in the area.

But residents were not convinced and insisted that something was going on, and that what was going on was very wrong. They gathered a list of over 100 people from the areas who had either died in the last five years from cancer or were dying from cancer. Many more people were named who had died earlier of cancer.

Many of the group also complained of severe nerve and neurological problems, and physical complaints such as severe headaches, nosebleeds, and digestive problems. One ex-employee at the plant suffered from a rare dysplasia of the bladder that doctors told him was caused by exposure to radioactive materials.

DuPont officials have maintained that the plant is not responsible for any illness in the community. They say that the company has

worked diligently to improve performance and reduce the environmental footprint while maintaining defined, sustainable growth and that the company has maintained its position as one of the safest companies in the industrial world.

In a previous statement, two local employees, spokesman for the DeLisle facility Garry Ruff and Manager Aldo Morell both said that they were very confident that the plant is safe for the community and that the plant was not contaminating the air, water or the environment.

"I look forward to our day in court because we have nothing to hide and are not contaminating the ground-water or the air ... it is unfortunate that people are sick in the community but we are not the cause of it," Morell said in a previous statement.

The suit alleges that DuPont DeLisle has contaminated, with toxic chemicals, surrounding waterways including the Bay of St. Louis and the Gulf of Mexico, as well as air, soil, water, groundwater and surface water of surrounding communities as a result of the production processes at the plant and waste disposal practices at the plant. The suit also alleges that the plant failed to warn the public of potential health hazards associated with the release of these chemicals.

Besides DuPont the suit names as defendants Waste Management, Inc. a/k/a USA Waste Services, Inc., a Delaware corporation, with principal offices in Houston, Texas; Waste Management of Mississippi, Inc. of Jackson; G.B. Boots Smith corporation, a Delaware corporation with principal offices in Laurel; Ingram Industries, Inc. a/k/a Ingram Corporation with principal offices in Nashville, Tennessee;

Ingram Industries LA whose principal offices were located in Harvey, Louisiana; Little Lake Towing and Dredging Co., Inc. whose principal offices were located in Harvey, Louisiana; and Norbert Emile and Yolanda Ruppel, individuals who reside in Mount Washington, Kentucky.

Waste Management and its subsidiary Waste Management of Mississippi, the suit says, owns and operates several landfills in Mississippi including the 16th Section Landfill and the Pecan Sanitary Grove Landfill. The suit alleges that the corporation collected, transported, and disposed of contaminated material from DuPont DeLisle to both landfills and that these materials have migrated to the surrounding environment.

Boots Smith is a trucking company, the suit says, who provide waste clean-up, collection, transportation and disposal services for DuPont following spills, releases and general waste clean-up. The suit alleges that unsafe practices during these operations and the disposal of this waste on the plant site has resulted in contamination of the environment.

Ingram Industries, the suit says, is a highly diversified company engaged in various enterprises, and operated and/or owned Little Lake Towing and other subsidiaries named in the suit. Ingram also operated a munitions plant in Kiln. The suit alleges that the plant manufactured, generated, used, emitted, handled, packaged, stored, and disposed of toxic chemicals in connection with the production of ammunition that were released into the environment.

The suit also alleges that

an explosion in May of 1972 further released these chemicals into the air, soil, waterways, and environment surrounding the plant. The suit alleges that these chemicals have migrated to surrounding communities, causing further contamination throughout the years.

The Ruppel's, the suit says, bought Ingram Industries property in 1976, making them potentially responsible for remediation efforts on the property.

The suit names the following counts against the defendants: Negligence, strict liability for ultra-hazardous activities, fraudulent misrepresentation, premises liability, public nuisance, assault and battery, negligent infliction of emotional distress, intentional infliction of emotional distress, punitive damages, vicarious liability, alter ego/piercing the corporate veil, civil conspiracy, wrongful death and loss of consortium. The suit seeks damages for all counts for each plaintiff, as allowed by law.

Jones County has recently come under national scrutiny. It was featured in a recent 60 Minutes report, in which it was alleged that Jones County jurors had awarded numerous, unusually large judgments, many of which were later overturned. Attorneys previously said that they wanted to file the suit outside the immediate area because they felt that they would not be able to obtain a fair trial or judgement if the trial was held in the immediate area.

Plaintiff's attorneys had initially said that the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality would be included as a defendant, but later dropped those plans.

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Continued from Page 1A

ment office in Picayune in Pearl River County.

Those who criticized the practice said that residents of Pearl River county got first pick of the jobs offered at the center and that most jobs were filled by the time Hancock County residents even heard of them. Coupled with the fact that Hancock County has given up a third of its land to house the Federal City, many thought that residents in the county should have first pick of the job openings generated there.

In other business: Governor Ronnie Musgrove will be in town on Monday to dedicate the Mobile Workforce Investment Network Job Center (WIN). The vehicle will be at the Hancock County Civic Center on Monday from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m., said Supervisors on Thursday.

The center is a specially

outfitted vehicle providing employment and training services and programs to job seekers, laid off workers, and businesses along the Gulf Coast area. The vehicle will travel to George, Harrison, Hancock, Jackson and Stone Counties and is a service of the Gulf Coast Business Services Corporation.

On Monday, city and county officials, businesses and the general public will be given the opportunity to tour the facilities. The unit contains 12 computers, a satellite up link, overhead monitor, fax, photocopier, printer, and a multimedia lab which can be mobilized to any location.

The unit will also assist businesses with training, recruitment, orientation, testing, and layoffs as well as offering computer training, resume preparation, workshops and job search assistance.

• Traffic lights will be installed at the intersection of Hwy. 603 and Interstate I-10 and be completed by July of 2003, announced Supervisors on Thursday. The intersection has been the site of a number of serious traffic accidents in recent years.

• Yes, the gray green color displayed on the side of the courthouse is the new color for the building, said architect Ed Wikoff. The building will actually sport four colors.

The trim will be off white; the metal areas will be a bronze color and the top will be a kaki color.

• The county will begin interviewing for the position of civil defense director/county fire Marshall early next month. In the interim, the county may ask local fire chiefs or other qualified employees to fill the position of arson investigator temporarily.

Shop -- Kmart Cops

Continued from Page 1A

the store.

Kmart sponsored five of the children and provided a ten percent discount on merchandise. Other children were sponsored by donations from the community and the police officers themselves. The Coleman Avenue Coalition helped officers raise money by placing donation wreaths throughout the community. After shopping, the kids

were treated to lunch at Coconuts Bar and Grill at the Waveland Holiday Inn, a gift from those two businesses.

The program grew from ten kids last year, said organizer Sergeant Brent Anderson, thanks to the help of the community, businesses, and to the special help received from Police Chief Jimmy Varnell and Mayor Tommy Longo.

The department is already looking forward to next year. We want this thing to grow, said Anderson. The department has set up a special bank account at Hancock Bank which will accept donations all year long for next Christmas' shopping spree. If you would like to donate, the account is set up under the name of the Waveland Police Association.

Operation Wake-Up! looking for support from community

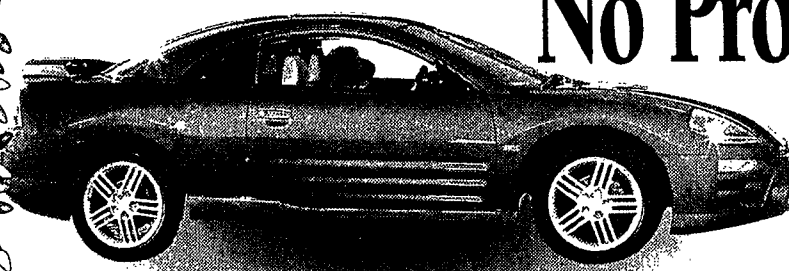
In preparation for The Krewe of Real People 22nd annual Mardi Gras ball and parade, Operation Wake-Up! is asking and needing community support to make their endeavor a great success.

Operation Wake-Up! has selected candidates for king and queen, Danin Martin Benoit, Sr., king; and Dina Marie Benoit, queen.

You can support them by making a taxable deduction payable to Krewe of Real

People (KORP) in their name (Danin and Dina) by Jan. 31. In return, Krewe of Real People will place your ad reference and content in their advertisement booklet. For more information, call (228) 467-6269.

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BUSINESS NEWS

Business brisk at tax office

BY ELLIS C. CUEVAS
Publisher Emeritus
 Hancock County Tax Collector/Assessor Jimmie Ladner, Jr., reported late Friday, his offices have been busy since December 2, collecting 2002 real and property taxes.

Ladner's office also collects property taxes for the Cities of Bay St. Louis and Waveland.

According to state law, property taxes for 2002 began on December 2, as December 1, was a Sunday.

Ladner anticipates his offices will collect some \$14 Million in 2002 taxes. The deadline is January 31, 2003, when they become delinquent.

For the convenience of county residents, property taxes can be paid also at the Kiln Tax Office on Highway 603, across from Roosters Restaurant, Ladner added. Many property owners use the mail service to pay their taxes too.

During Christmas week, Ladner said his offices will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday, December 23, Thursday, December 26, and Friday, December 27.

Customers to get cost reduction

The Mississippi Public Service Commission (PSC) announced a \$10.8 million reduction in fuel cost for Mississippi Power customers. The reduction becomes effective with January bills.

"This will represent about a 2% reduction in cost to the average retail customer," said PSC chairman and Southern District Commissioner Michael Callahan.



Ribbon cutting

Dr. Jim Thriffley, IV, recently celebrated the grand opening of his new practice at 835 Thames Avenue in Bay St. Louis with a ribbon cutting and open house. In attendance were Dr. Keith Everman, Ollie McKenna, Jim Thriffley, Lillian Thriffley, Dr. Irene Koskan, Dr. Thriffley, Angle Weems, JeanAnn Thriffley, Moll Kergoslen, Tish Haas Williams and many other family, friends and colleagues. Dr. Thriffley specializes in orthopedic surgery and sports medicine. (Staff photo by Cecilia Howe)

Bank announces promotions

Hancock Bank President and Chief Executive Officer George A. Schloegel recently announced several assistant vice president promotions approved by the Hancock Holding Company and Hancock Bank board of directors.

Renee Hendley, Assistant Vice President. A Gautier native, Hendley attended Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. She joined Hancock Bank in 1985 during Hancock Bank's merger with the Pascagoula-Moss Point Bank and has over 30 years of experience in the financial services industry. A legal liaison with Hancock's Legal department, she has also served as CIF operations officer and supervisor and a savings officer.

Louise C. Holston, Assistant Vice President. Holston, Hancock Bank's CheckCard manager, has over 30 years of financial services industry experience and joined the Hancock team four and one-half years ago. The Gulfport native graduated from Harrison Central High School and attended Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. She also completed Hancock University's Leadership School and the American Institute of Banking (AIB) Bank Secrecy Compliance course. A member of the Exchange Club, she has

served as both treasurer of Gateway United Methodist Church in Gulfport and president of Gateway United Methodist Women for two years.

Lisa Jones, Assistant Vice President. Hancock Bank Loan Operations Manager Jones is an 18-year veteran of the financial services industry and a five-year employee of Hancock Bank. A resident of Gulfport, Jones graduated from Biloxi High School and received an associate degree in clerical science from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. She has served as a volunteer with both the United Way of South Mississippi and the Girl Scouts of America.

Lee Mayet, Assistant Vice President. Gulfport resident Mayet attended South Lafourche High School in Galliano, LA, and received a bachelor of science degree in computer science from Nicholls State University. He has also pursued graduate work at the University of New Orleans. The PC/Web Services team leader was a programmer/analyst with Host Programming as well as Hancock's Mission Centennial automation project. He has 11 years' experience in the financial services arena. Mayet holds XML programming certification from the Beirman Group and advanced SQL

programming certification from IBM.

Deborah Migues, Assistant Vice President. Jackson, native, Migues joined Hancock Bank in 1998 as a retail lender trainee and now serves as the Poppas Ferry branch manager with over 16 years' financial service experience. She graduated from Jackson Preparatory High School and attended Mississippi State University and Belhaven College in Jackson. She has completed Hancock University's Retail Management Tract and Commercial Credit School, and she is currently enrolled at the Mississippi School of Banking. Migues is a member of the Biloxi Bay Chamber of Commerce and a new provisional member of the Biloxi-Ocean Springs Junior Auxiliary.

Denise Parker, Assistant Vice President. Gulfport trust officer Parker came to Hancock Bank's Trust department in 1984 and has over 18 years of financial services experience. She is a graduate of Long Beach High School and holds a business administration degree from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. Parker has completed the Cannon Financial Institute Trust School I, II, and III as well as Cannon's Trust Operations School.

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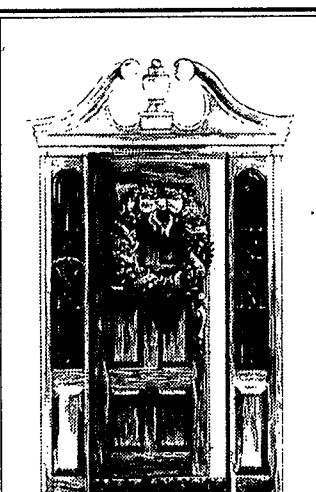
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AT & T/T	26.58	- .98
AUTOZONE INC/AZO	70.56	+ 2.05
BELLSOUTH/BLS	26.74	+ .72
BOEING/BA	32.71	+ 1.31
CALGON CARBON/CCC	5.00	+ .56
CHEVRON /CVX	66.65	- .98
COCA COLA/KO	44.08	- 1.77
CSX CORP/CSX	28.77	+ .94
DUPONT/DD	42.96	+ .40
GENERAL ELEC/GE	25.95	+ .45
GOODYEAR TIRE/GT	6.80	- .32
HANCOCK HOLDING CO/HBHC	43.98	- .23
INTL BUSINESS MACHINE/IBM	79.79	- .21
INTL PAPER CO/IP	35.33	+ 1.10
K MART CORP/KM	.35	- .22
LOCKHEED MARTIN/LMT	54.62	+ 4.92
PARK PLACE ENT/PPE	8.23	+ .23
PEN NATL GAMING/PENN	16.19	- .49
PEOPLES FINANCIAL /PFBX	14.65	+ .41
MCDONALDS CORP/MCD	15.75	- 1.59
MIRANT/ MIR	1.52	- .34
REGIONS FINANCIAL/R7	33.37	+ .66
ROCKWELL INTL CORP/ROK	20.68	- .43
SOUTHERN COMPANY/SO	28.85	+ 1.00
UNION PLANTERS/UPC	28.37	+ .40
WAL MART STORES/WMT	50.79	+ .25
WELLMAN INC/WLM	13.30	- .32
WHITNEY HOLDING/WTNY	31.97	- .76

Submitted by Craig Foster, Edward Jones Co.



Seasons Greetings!

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LISA JONES



LEE MAYET



DEBORAH MIGUES



DENISE PARKER

Holiday Deadlines

Advertising and Editorial deadlines for
 The Sea Coast Echo and The Sea Coast
 Extra are as follows:

Thursday, December 26, 2002 edition
 All deadlines 5pm Monday December 23rd

Thursday, January 2, 2003 edition
 All deadlines 5pm Monday December 30th

Extra - Wednesday, December 25, 2002 edition
 All deadlines 9am, Monday, December 23rd

Extra - Wednesday, January 1, 2003 edition
 All deadlines 9am, Monday, December 30th

Obituaries

HELEN ALEXANDER EDITH BACK RUBY CLARK CLARA

FAIRCONNETUE
CHAS. FRANZEN III
HERMAN JOHNSON
RONALD LIZANA
JOE MARSHALL
R. MCARTHUR SR.
PATRICK TOOMEY
MIKE ZUPPARDO

HELEN ALEXANDER
Helen Alexander, age unavailable, of Diamondhead, died Monday, Dec. 16, 2002, in Bay St. Louis.

Services are pending at Smith Mortuary in Clinton; J.T. Hall Funeral Home in Gulfport handled local arrangements.

EDITH BACK

A memorial service for Edith Bierhorst Back will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22, at 316 Carroll Ave., Bay St. Louis.

Ms. Back, 79, died Nov. 29, in Bay St. Louis after a brief illness. A native of New Orleans, she spent 20 years in social work before switching to a career in journalism. She retired in 1988 from The Sun Herald.

Her civic activities included acting and directing for Bay St. Louis Little Theatre and Waveland Players, helping people with

AIDS and editing the Hancock County Historical Society's "Historian."

RUBY CLARK

Ruby Mae Clark, 84, of Diamondhead, died Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2002.

Mrs. Clark was a nurse for over 40 years.

Survivors include a daughter, Patricia Krystek of Kiln.

Services will be held at a later date. The family prefers memorials to the American Heart Association, P.O. Box 638, Gulfport, MS 39502.

CLARA

FAIRCONNETUE
Clara L. "Cutchie" Fairconnetue, 89, of Bay St. Louis, died Saturday, Dec. 14, 2002, in Bay St. Louis.

Mrs. Fairconnetue was a graduate of Valena C. Jones High School and was employed at Valena C. Jones High School as a cook. She was a member of Valena C. Jones Memorial United Methodist Church in Bay St. Louis.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Paul and Belle Jacobs Fairconnetue; and 11 brothers and sisters.

Survivors include a sister, Belle Quincy of Chicago; four daughters, Ruby J. Luke of Los Angeles, Vivian M. Gaunt of Orange, N.J., Carol C. Robateau of San Diego and Vernita Fairconnetue of Los Angeles; and seven grandchildren.

Visitation was Saturday at Valena C. Jones Memorial United Methodist Church in Bay St. Louis followed by services and burial in Cedar Rest Cemetery in Bay St. Louis.

J.T. Hall Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

CHARLES FRANZEN

III
Charles Franzen, III, 58, of Kiln, died Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2002, in Picayune, Miss.

Mr. Franzen was a native

of Brooklyn, N.Y. and a resident of Kiln for the past 26 years. He was of the Methodist faith and a member of the Eastern Star, Bay St. Louis, the Masonic Lodge 429, Bay St. Louis, where he served as a past Master Mason, York Rite-Scottish Rite and Shriner. He was also a member of the Rusty Spokes Motorcycle Club of Gulfport. Mr. Franzen worked as service manager for Atlantic Marine and at Charlie Henderson Ford in Waveland. He was active for several years with the Kiln Fire and Rescue Department.

He was preceded in death by his father, Charles Franzen, Jr.

Survivors include his wife, Ann Franzen of Kiln; sons Charles Franzen, IV, of Kiln and Russell Franzen of DeLisle; daughters Tina Spurlock of Gulfport and Cindy Mitchell of Saucier; his mother, Lillian Franzen of Kiln; a sister, Caroline Franzen Rolfson of Glens Falls, N.Y.; a brother, Robert Franzen of Rochester, N.Y.; and nine grandchildren.

Visitation was Saturday at Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis followed by a prayer service and Masonic service. Interment will be private.

HERMAN JOHNSON

Herman "Sonny" Johnson, 75, of Picayune, died Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2002, in Picayune.

Mr. Johnson was a native of Kiln and was a retired construction worker. He was a member of Pilgrim Bound Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Bernice Johnson; a son, Donald Ray Carter; a daughter, Peggy Lynn Johnson Dunston; five sisters, Mary Ann Paige, all of Picayune, Dorothy Jean Cook of Hattiesburg, Sarah T. Simmons of Ohio, Geraldine Littles of Picayune, Ruth Dell of Pearlinton; three brothers, Fred Johnson, L.C. Bettis and Clyde Bettis, all of Picayune; and three grandchildren.

Visitation was Saturday at Pilgrim Bound Baptist Church followed by services and burial in Picayune Cemetery.

Baylous Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

RONALD LIZANA

Ronald Wayne Lizana, 19, of Pass Christian, died Monday, Dec. 16, 2002, in Gulfport.

Mr. Lizana was a lifelong resident of Mississippi and was a member of St. Stephen Catholic Church in DeLisle. He attended Pass Christian High School and was a former Boy Scout of America for eight years.

Survivors include his father, Ronald Wayne Williams of Kenner, La.; mother, Loretta Lizana; and two sisters, Leslie "Las" Lizana and Roni Lizana, all of Pass Christian.

Services were conducted Saturday at St. Stephen Catholic Church in DeLisle, with burial in St. Stephen Cemetery.

Lockett-Williams Mortuary in Gulfport was in charge of arrangements.

JOE MARSHALL

Joe P. Marshall, 63, of Long Beach, died Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2002, in Long Beach.

Mr. Marshall was a resi-

dent of Vicksburg for over 30 years and had been a resident of Long Beach for the past 12 years. He was a baseball umpire for all of his adult life and had been elected by the Mississippi High School Activity Association (MHSAA) Southern Region as 2001 Umpire of the Year. He was also a member of the Baptist faith.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Claude H. and Elsie Pyron Marshall.

Survivors include two brothers, Charlton Marshall of Campbell, Calif. and Clayton Marshall of Diamondhead; two sisters, Claudette Sprayberry of Villa Rica, Ga. and Rebecca Kelmell of Slidell, La.; an uncle, Chester Marshall of Memphis, Tenn.; three aunts, Lois Curry of Greenville, Miss., Lura Buck of Albuquerque, N.M. and Betty Pyron of Greenville, Miss.

Funeral services were conducted Thursday at Riemann Funeral Home in Gulfport. A graveside service was held Friday at Liberty Chapel Cemetery in Lexington, Miss.

The family requests that memorial contributions be made to the American Red Cross, P.O. Box 4514, Biloxi, MS 39535.

R. MCARTHUR SR.

Ronald "Poochie" McArthur Sr., 60, of Pass Christian, died Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2002.

Mr. McArthur was a lifelong resident of Pass Christian and was a builder and fisherman.

He was preceded in death by his father, Tony McArthur; mother, Lugenia McArthur; and a brother, Herman McArthur.

Survivors include his wife, Jerry McArthur of Pass Christian; two sons, Joe Wesley Craft of Carriere, Ronald McArthur Jr.; two daughters, Janet McArthur of Pass Christian, Rhonda Howard of Pass Christian; two brothers, Edward "Buddy" McArthur, Earl "Pete" McArthur; a sister, Helen Ringer of Pass Christian; and 10 grandchildren.

Visitation was Saturday at Riemann Funeral Home in Pass Christian followed by services and burial in Live Oak Cemetery in Pass Christian.

Leona Bourgeois Toomey; a son, Patrick Peter Toomey, Jr.; and two brothers, Herbert Toomey and Edward Toomey.

Survivors include his wife, Cathrine Lusich Toomey, of Waveland; a son, Bobby Toomey of Waveland; four daughters, Gentille Butsch of Bay St. Louis; Patty Hardman of Bay St. Louis; Cathy Anitto of Herdon, Va.; and Nancy Depreo of Waveland; and 13 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

A visitation will be held today, Sunday, December 22, from 7 p.m. to midnight, with recitation of the Rosary at 7 p.m. at the

Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis, MS.

The Prayer Service will be held Monday, December 23, 11 a.m. at the Edmond Fahey Funeral Home. Interment will follow at Waveland Cemetery, Waveland, MS.

Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis is in charge of the arrangements.

MIKE ZUPPARDO

Mike Zuppardo, 70, of Bay St. Louis, MS, died Friday, December 20, 2002, in Bay St. Louis.

Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis, MS, is in charge of the arrangements.

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Sadly Missed by
Brothers-in-law, Relatives



Loving Memories of

Carolyn Anne Martin
12-25-1954 to 10-3-2002
&
William "Bill" Martin
6-21-1941 to 10-3-2002

We see the countless Christmas trees, around the world below, with tiny lights, like heaven's stars, reflecting on the snow. The sight is so spectacular, please wipe away the tears, for we are spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

We hear the many Christmas songs, that people hold so dear, but the sounds of music can't compare with the Christmas choir up here. We have no words to tell you, the joy their voices bring, for it is beyond description, to hear angels sing.

We know how much you miss us. We see the pain inside your heart, but we are not so far away. We really aren't apart. So be happy for us dear ones. You know we hold you dear, and be glad we're spending Christmas, with Jesus Christ this year.

We send you each a special gift, from our heavenly home above. We send you each a memory of our undying love. After all "Love" is the gift, more precious than pure gold. It was always most important in the stories Jesus told.

Please love and keep each other, as our Father said to do, for we can't count the blessing or love He has for each of you. So have a Merry Christmas and wipe away the tears.

Remember, We're spending Christmas, with Jesus Christ this year.

Sadly Missed & Loved By,
Harriet, Jack, Peewee, Nieces,
Nephews & family

In Loving Memory



In Memory of His
Birthday

**SETH AARON
OSTERHOLM**

Dec. 22, 1989 - April 15, 1998

There is not a day goes by we do not think of you and miss you. Seth, you will forever be in our hearts.

Happy Birthday Baby & Merry Christmas.

Sadly Missed,
Very Much Loved
Mom, Dad, Adam,
Nannie & PaPa

In Loving Memory of

Conrad J. Howe

11-20-56 to 12-23-00



Deeply missed by wife,
daughter, mother and
father, sister, other family
and countless friends.

Through our tears, we
take comfort knowing you
are with God and in His
loving care.

Rainbows & Butterflies
Forever!

SPORTS

#1-ranked Lady Tigers roll; #7-ranked Admirals sink Hawks

BY JOSEPH W. GEX II
Staff Writer

The Bay High Tigers swept a pair of games with the East Central Hornets on Friday at the Wilmer Seymour Gymnasium. Also, the Hancock Hawks were sunk by the #7-ranked Gulfport Admirals in Kiln.

The top-ranked Lady Tigers of Bay High remained undefeated at 15-0, 3-0 with their 77-24 win over the Lady Hornets of East Central.

By halftime the entire bench had touched the court en route to the division win. Lady Tigers head coach Debbie Triplett stated, "Right now, I am very pleased with the way we are playing. We had just five turnovers in the game and only nine the game before. As a team, we are playing smarter and more aggressive basketball. We are rebounding on both ends much better at this stage. A concern for the team is continuing to get better throughout the season so that we are peaking at the right time."

Kendra Reed and LaMonica James led the Lady Tigers with 15 points each. Stephanie Reed added 13 points and Courtney Rieux 11 points.

The boys team won just one quarter in their contest with East Central; however, it proved to be the most important quarter of the game - the fourth and final one. And, the win gives the team a 3-1 mark in the division at the break. That was a team goal before the season started.

The Tigers (4-9) were outscored 14-12 in the opening quarter and went in at

the break down 33-31. At the end of three periods of play, the Tigers were still down 51-47 but far from out. Lorenzo Lewis hit a huge three-pointer with 1:15 left to play in the game that put the Tigers ahead 62-61.

East Central tied the game 62-62 when Travis Lankford made one of two free throws with :27 left to play.

Nathan Bradley went to the line to try and seal the win. He missed the front end and George Easley got the rebound. On the put-back, Easley's shot was rejected by Anthony Dykes. The Tigers stole the ball back in transition and Eric Lymuel was fouled going up for the shot. Lymuel sank both free throws with :12 to give Bay High the win.

Bay High head coach Alan Lumpkin commented, "This was a big win for us not just because it was a division win but because of the circumstances. The ball game was tight the whole way and we only won one quarter of action. We are a young team and the kids battled the entire game and took the win in a tight situation. East Central played a great game. We are a penetrating team and early on they took that away from us with Anthony Dykes in the middle. Our guys didn't quit. We kept trying to penetrate which helped keep our outside shots open. Marquez Singleton and Lorenzo Lewis really stepped up their game tonight from the outside and kept us in the game with some timely three-point shots. One of our team mottos is 'refuse to

lose.' Tonight's game is a very good example of that motto."

George Easley led the Tigers with 18 points and six rebounds. He also connected on four three-point shots in the game. Lorenzo Lewis added 15 points while Marquez Singleton chipped in 13 points. Travis Lankford led the Hornets with 19 points.

The Hancock Hawks hosted the #7-ranked Gulfport Admirals in Kiln. The Admirals used a second half run to put the game out of reach and record an 84-62 win over the Hawks.

Gulfport maintained a 46-31 lead at halftime using a pressing defense against Hancock most of the first half. However, the Hawks handled the press very well. Some key turnovers put the Hawks down at halftime.

In the third period, Adam Ladner, Levi Ladner and Darrin Boone all scored four points each to keep the Hawks within striking distance of the Admirals in the final period.

But, the lead was just too much to overcome in the final period. Hancock traded baskets with the Admirals in the final period and were outscored 18-17 to end the game.

Hancock head coach Michael Ladner stated, "This was the best that we have played in the last four weeks. We showed a much better defensive performance tonight and ran our offense with a little more patience. Even though we cut down our turnovers from the previous four games, we still to work on limiting that number. Gulfport is a very good team

and I feel very good about the way that we played them. We were able to push the ball up the court against some solid pressure defense. Then, we were able to get the ball to the spots and the players we wanted to. If we can take this game and build on it we will be much better when we come back."

Adam Ladner had a solid game in the frontcourt for the Hawks with 18 points, 11 rebounds, 3 blocked shots and two assists. Darrin Boone scored 15 points followed by Jeremy Strief with 11 points. Henry Salter of Gulfport led all scorers with 27 points.

In other action during the week, the #1-ranked Bay High Lady Tigers disposed of the Lady Warriors of D'Iberville 71-26 at home on Tuesday, December 17. Stephanie Reed led the way with 18 points. Carmen Labat and LaMonica James each scored 12 points followed by Felicia Thomas with 11 and Kendra Reed with 10 points.

The Bay High Tigers also recorded a win over D'Iberville but scoring details were unavailable.

A Christmas Tale

"Twas the night before Christmas and there wasn't a sound,
The North Pole was quiet, 'cause all their motors were down.
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OLA Crescents undefeated in high school soccer action

THE SEA COAST ECHO
Defending Class 1A-2A-3A state soccer champions Our Lady Academy enters the Christmas break with a record of 11-0-3.

Friday night the Crescents shutout the Lady Admirals 3-0 in Gulfport. Lauren Goulet scored two goals and Kara Harshbarger one in the winning effort. Rachel Cranford had two assists and Margaret Hadden one for the Crescents. Annie Giardino had the shutout in

goal.

OLA will host Salmen High School of Slidell in their next contest on January 7, 2003 at 5:30 p.m.

In the junior high contest, OLA won 3-0. Amanda Meyers, Olivia Hoff and Jaimie Reisch scored goals for the Crescents. Reisch and Meyers also had an assist. Bri Johnston and Amelia Simpson combined in goal for the shutout. Kree Cameron had an outstand-

ing defensive game for OLA. The team is 5-0 and will face Harrison Central at 5:30 p.m. on January 8, 2003.

On Thursday, December 12, the OLA junior high team beat Ocean Springs 6-1. Amanda Meyers scored four goals for the Crescents, while Olivia Hoff and Jaimie Reisch had one each. Mary Alexis Boxx, Reisch, Kaitlyn Bosley and Margaret Rittiner each had an assist.

Waveland Little League seeking volunteers for 2003

Waveland Little League is gearing up for its 2003 baseball season.

Anyone interested in being a manager, coach, assistant coach, umpire, score keeper, announcer or volunteer needs to fill out an application.

Waveland Little League will begin to have baseball clinics beginning in January.

For information or to pick up an application, call Leo at 228-469-0687 or 228-806-0988. Please leave message if no answer. Your call will be returned.

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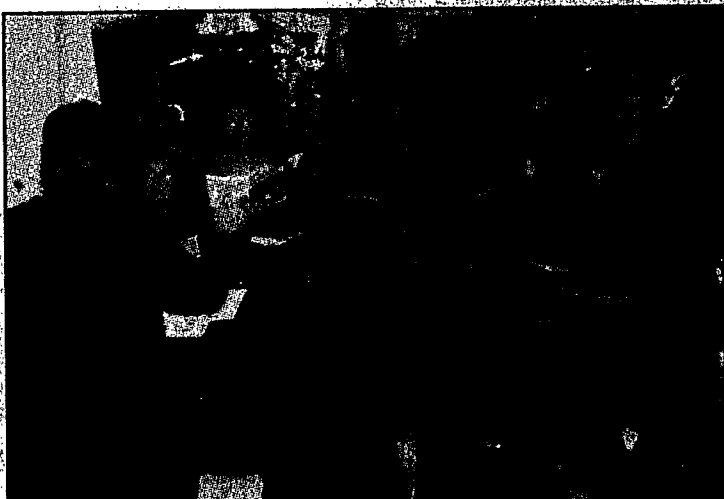
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SECOND SLIDELL EXIT

Merry Christmas!

From the staff of The Sea Coast Echo



Scenes from the Echo Christmas party at Palace in the Pass



Congratulations to Casino Magic Bay St. Louis' 2002 Outstanding Team Members!

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Rocks can be garden assets



SOUTHERN GARDENING

By Norman Winter
MSU Horticulturist
Central Mississippi
Research & Extension
Center

At this time of the year, many of us want to do more in the landscape than just rake leaves or pine straw. Why not take a survey around your home and see if you can use some rocks?

Avid gardeners may have felt they had a good understanding of well-drained soil until this past season when the rains came by the bucketfuls.

People became keenly aware of water flowing in parts of the landscape, or worse yet, standing close to their home's foundation and wishing it flowed away.

You can turn this problem into a garden asset with the addition of a dry creek. A dry creek bed can flow as needed and is one of the hottest trends in Mississippi. I started noticing them in the Brookhaven area, but now they seem to have spread throughout the state.

Even at our new office where the water flows off the roof fast enough to operate a small hydroelectric plant, the dry creek beds handle the water with ease and actually makes the building and landscape more attractive.

Whether you need to move water quickly away from the gutter downspout or perhaps have a winding snakelike low area across your landscape, you can create a dry creek with the addition of rocks and river pebbles.

The first consideration is to remove the unwanted vegetation from the low area. Next, it is probably a good idea to line the bottom of the creek with a weed blocking fabric. Place the small river rocks in the bottom and larger rocks along the bank. Be sure and set a few large rocks randomly in the middle as well.

In the dry creek at my house, I used Louisiana iris and the yellow flag iris, *Iris pseudacorus*, as well as umbrella plants, *Cyperus alternifolius*. I planted some on the banks and some actually in the creek.

Along the creek at the office, we used trailing juniper and the native Virginia sweetspire, *Itea virginica*, which presently has a fiery red leaf. In a more shaded bed, we have ferns, irises and the tropical looking fatsia.

GARDENING--PAGE 5B

Big Family Christmas



Echo staff photo by Bennie Shallbetter
Drew and Nancy McDowell, rear, with their 32 adopted children at home in Long Beach. God called to their hearts to make a difference in the lives of children, they say, and it was a call they could not refuse.

32 stockings were hung by the chimney with care...

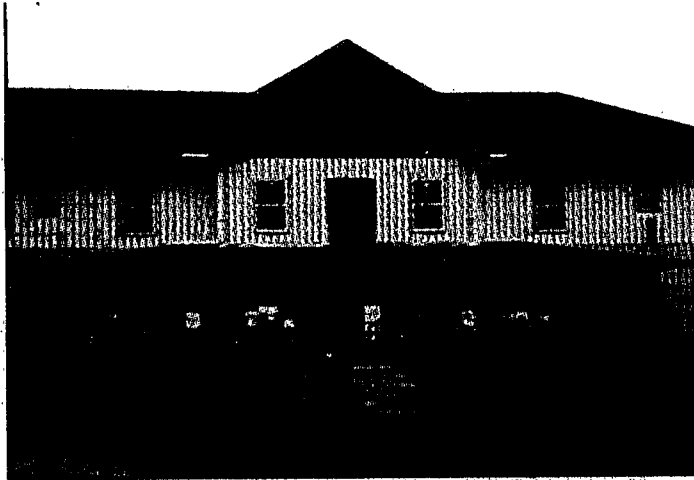


Photo courtesy of Drew and Nancy McDowell
The McDowell's new house in Pass Christian "is like a small hotel," they say and will offer plenty of space for the children to grow. "God provides," Nancy says.

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

The next time you think you are feeling stressed by the overwhelming number of tasks you have to accomplish in a day, take a moment to reflect on the life that Drew and Nancy McDowell have chosen for themselves. It is guaranteed to make your tasks seem easy.

The McDowells are raising 32, yes 32, adopted children and have raised 10 more who have left home already, one of which, a son, is their biological child.

Nancy says she has always had a great love in her heart for children.

"And I felt I had the ability to raise kids and I saw such a great need," she explains. "We just felt if we could change the destiny a little of a child that may come from a background

that did not offer much hope for the future, if we could make a difference and turn that destiny around ... offer education, teach them about God ..."

The McDowells explain their parenthood as a calling, from God.

"We weren't planning on adopting any more about 15 children ago, but it was like God was knocking on the door ... he laid it on our hearts that there was a great need," said Nancy.

The McDowells recently adopted, an entire family of eight children, considered special needs because of their sheer numbers.

Like any family we all have our issues, said Nancy, but we are a family and we help each other get through. Some children have more trouble adjusting to a new home than others, she said, and some have more trouble than others

adjusting to the volume of their new family.

For the most part though, Nancy says, the kids are so happy to have a safe and happy place to be that the adjustment is quick.

"We have very set routines," she said. "Many times children coming from troubled backgrounds don't have any routine things in their lives ... we feel that children need routine. We have family meals, bathe every night, keep our clothes clean and are in school every day. We also have bible study here twice a week and a tutor every afternoon to help with homework."

The children are also encouraged to select outside activities such as dancing lesson, sports activities and boy and girl scouts.

32 KIDS--PAGE 5B

Gretal, Heidi, Annabelle, Heron, Lillie and Jennie

"You write about Holly why don't you write about Jennie?"

Stella had been watching me sleep on the living room floor and when I woke greeted me with this admonition. I looked around. There lying less than a foot from me was Jennie, our Weimaraner, sound asleep but managing to stay as close to me as she could.

On the other hand, Holly, our black tom, was on the other side of the room lying in the warm sun near the sliding glass door to the porch, probably wanting to go out.

I sat up and looked at

the two. I'll admit it, I take a nap during the day, usually at noon. I'm not ashamed. It's usually a crash thing that last between twenty and thirty minutes.

These naps are a residue of my time in service when I learned a powerful lesson: when you get a moment, seize it, take a

nap. It is a regime that has stood me in good stead for many years.

These naps really are power naps. They refresh me. Years ago when I woke up from one I would feel great and get up from one knowing I could work for another eight or ten hours smashing boulders, leaping tall buildings, etc.

before needing a recharge. Now, when I get up from one I feel like charging a herd of angry buffalos. A very small herd, but still.

When I do take these naps, I usually take them on the living room floor and Jennie usually joins me, lying close to me and staying there till I wake up.

When we had other dogs, they did this as well. There was a time when Stella and I had three Weimaraners in the house. Mind you, these are big dogs, averaging seventy or so pounds. It seems strange to me now that we were able to have them

inside the house. Although all we have now is Jennie, she can be a handful at times.

All three of the dogs would saunter in when I took my daily nap. It was a sort of ritual. Each would quietly arrange itself around me according to its position in the household hierarchy, the alpha dog near my head, the second at my waist and the third relegated to my feet. Once down none would move till I woke up.

The pattern in which they laid in reference to my position on the floor was also interesting.

VIEWS--PAGE 5B

Views From a Front Porch

by Paul Estronza La Violette
laviolette@mail.datasync.com

Now, that's refreshing ...



OLA September Pepsi Students of Month

Our Lady Academy recognizes students from all six grade levels for the Pepsi Students of the Month Award. Students who received the award for the month of September include, from left, Kate Moran, senior; Mimsie Ladner, junior; Jennifer Asper, sophomore; Emily Stechmann, freshman; Jennifer Wong, eighth grade; and Olivia Hoff, seventh grade. Students are nominated by faculty members for their different achievements, character, and service. Pepsi shirts are given to OLA by Sam Almann III, representative of the Pepsi Cola Company.



OLA October Pepsi Students of Month

Our Lady Academy Pepsi Students for the Month of October include, from left, Courtanie Cutrer, eighth grade; Tess Sison, sophomore; Jennifer Fortenberry, senior; Rachel Cranford, junior; Alyse Prieur, freshman; and Amella Simpson, seventh grade. They are standing in front of a mosaic mural which was a gift to the school from the Class of 1999.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly, Chapter 307

TOPS MS 307, Bay St. Louis, met Wednesday, Dec. 18 in Triumphant Christian Church, 1807 Waveland Ave., Waveland.

Mabel was the week's best loser with 1 1/2 pounds. She was also top KOPS.

Chapter members wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The chapter meets every Wednesday at Triumphant Christian Church, 1807 Waveland Ave., Suite A, Waveland. Weigh-in is 4:30-5 p.m., and the meeting is 5:30 p.m.

Anyone interested in losing weight is welcome. Call Sherri at 467-3798.

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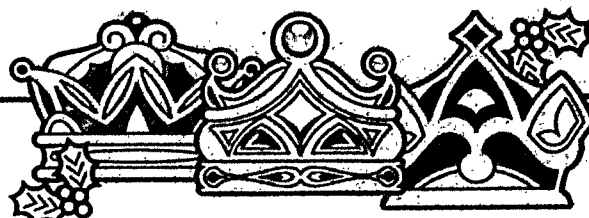
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Weddings and Engagements

Compretta, Caillet wed in Bay St. Louis

Our Lady of the Gulf Church was the setting for the December 14th Marriage of Jessica Leigh Compretta of Bay St. Louis, Mississippi and Chad Christian Caillet of Luling, Louisiana.

The Bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Joseph Compretta of Bay St. Louis. She is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. James Patrick Keith of Jonesboro, Louisiana and the late Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Paul Compretta of Bay St. Louis.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Kerwin Eli Caillet of Luling, Louisiana. He is the grandson of Mr. Wayne John Lauve and the late Mrs. Marie Alleman Lauve of Luling, Louisiana and Mr. and Mrs. Marcelin Eli Caillet of Hahnville, Louisiana.

Father Michael Paul Austin celebrated a Nuptial Mass at the afternoon ceremony with Father Cuddy O'Connell serving as Concelebrant.

Musical selections were presented by soloists, Joni Kihneman Compretta, sister-in-law of the Bride; Mandy Hudson Lacy; Darleen Previto and David Branch. The Violinist was Marsel Lanasa; trumpeter, Earl Tanner; the guitarist, David Branch; the organist and Director of Music was Edward M. Grotkowski. The wedding party entered to Pachabel's "Canon in D", followed by the Bell Ringers, with the chiming of the hour and entering to "Ode To Joy", henceforth followed by the Ring Bearer and the Flower Girl. The Procession was followed with Purcell's "Trumpet Voluntary" heralding the entrance of the Bride.

The Recessional was Psalm XIX, by Marcello Shubert's "Ava Maria" was played as a violin solo and Malotte's "The Lord's Prayer" as well as "Eternity" for the Lighting of the Unity Candle were sung by soloists.

The scripture readings were rendered by Monica Caillet, Aunt of the Groom; Christy Steib, cousin of the Groom and Mynette Zimmer, Godmother of the Groom.

The Gift bearers and Greeters were; Jami Pauline Chiniche, Amy Compretta Goscinski, Jacqueline Mary Sotak, and Lieder Austin Walker, all cousins of the Bride.

As the proud father walked down the aisle, with daughter in arm, the room was filled with shimmering mists of light, which reflected beautifully from the Brides exquisite jeweled gown. The strapless "Cinderella gown" was embellished with seed pearls, rhinestones and rocals. The designer gown of sparkling misty organza and French tulle featured a basque bodice overlaid with pearly and sequined schiffli embroidered lace, which generously lavished tulle panels extending from the fitted waistline and falling



Mrs. Jessica Leigh Compretta Caillet

into the six layered full bouffant skirt. The draping back bow of diaphanous white satin led delicately to the chapel train of gossamer starburst tulle and jeweled motif. Her veil with three tiers of French tulle was edged with white satin ribbon and fell in adornment to fingertip length from her princess designed tiara of rhinestones and crystals. Her jewelry was a pearl and diamond necklace with matching earrings, which was a gift from her parents. The bridal ensemble was completed with a pair of white opera length gloves with pearl clasp and jeweled "Cinderella slippers".

The bride's bouquet was a classical nosegay of two dozen white roses, which was accented with a jeweled clutch and wide white satin ribbon, which caught the stems and fell into streamers.

Connally Compretta Scardino of Pass Christian, Mississippi, attended her sister as matron of honor.

Bridesmaids were Brittany Keaton Benefield of Covington, Louisiana; Miranda Smith Compretta of Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi; Angie Richardson Farve of Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi; Shelley Donay Williams of Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Deborah Kay Monti of New Orleans, Louisiana; Ashley Elizabeth Riggs of Baton Rouge, Louisiana; and Susan Elizabeth Sullivan of Smyrna, Georgia.

The attendants were identically attired in gowns of ice blue brocade satin and tulle. The gowns featured a halter neckline and fitted bodice accented with a lace up back above a full tulle floor length skirt.

To stay in accordance with the "Winter Wonderland" wedding theme, the bridesmaids carried white fur muffs adorned with a sparkling

white snowflake.

The flower girl was Maycee Maleah Scardino, niece and Godchild of the bride. Her gown was an original "princess style" satin and tulle creation designed especially for the wedding with rhinestone tiara to replicate the bride.

The Bell ringers, who ceremoniously brought in "the chiming of the hour", were Mattison Melynn Scardino, niece of the bride; Cassidy Marie Compretta, niece of the bride and Robert Joseph Compretta, III, nephew of the bride.

Darren Michael Caillet of Luling, Louisiana and brother of the groom, served as the best man.

Groomsmen were, Brenan Keith Compretta of Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi; Robert Joseph Compretta, Jr. of Bay Saint Louis; "Jason Michael Donnaud of Destrehan, Louisiana; Michael Anthony Federico of Meridian, Mississippi; Jared William Martin of Gulf Breeze, Florida; Robert Brady Mills of Diamondhead, Mississippi; and Jeffrey Marion Todd of Columbus, Ohio.

Ushers were Matthew Herrick Baltz of Madison, Florida; Christopher Lee Hesse of Omaha, Nebraska and Matthew Joseph Scardino of Pass Christian, Mississippi.

The Ringbearer was Cooper Jacob Compretta, nephew and Godchild of the bride.

Following the wedding ceremony, a reception was held in the Cypress Ballroom at the Casino Magic Bay Tower Hotel with music by Shea Ladner and his band. The room sparkled with adornments of the champagne gold floor-length tablecloths and matching chair sashes. The table decorations of fresh white roses and tulips were interchanged with lamp-

lights. Each table had sprinklings of frosted snowflakes. There was a large white sleigh with reindeer for placement of gifts and a winter ice sculpture. The focal point for the reception was the bridal cake table which hosted a six-tiered wedding cake on a silver pedestal, which was adorned with edible glittered snowflakes and topped with a "Cinderella snow castle".

Upon their return from a honeymoon in Cancun, the couple will reside in Meridian, Mississippi, where Mr. Caillet is assistant baseball coach at Meridian Community College.

Pre-nuptial parties: An engagement Luau was given in August at the home of Mr. & Mrs. AJ Scardino and hosted by Connally and Matt Scardino, Joyce and Dennis Scardino, Darren Caillet Shelley Williams and Jackie Sotak. Music selections were rendered by singer and guitarist, Miles Scharp.

In September, Barbara and Jenny Boston and Jessica Willy hosted a miscellaneous bridal shower in the Boston home.

A bridesmaid's shower was held at the Historic Bay St. Louis Depot with hostesses being Angie Farve, Debbie Monti, Brittany Benefield, Ashley Riggs and Susan Sullivan.

In October, a party for the bride was held in the home of Angie Farve.

A dinner party and "Room to Room" shower was held at "Court Street Station" in October. Hostesses for this party

CAILLET-PAGE 4B

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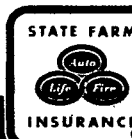


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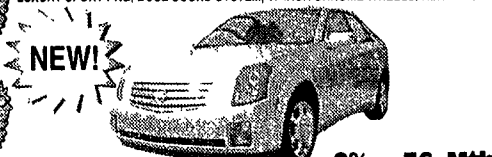
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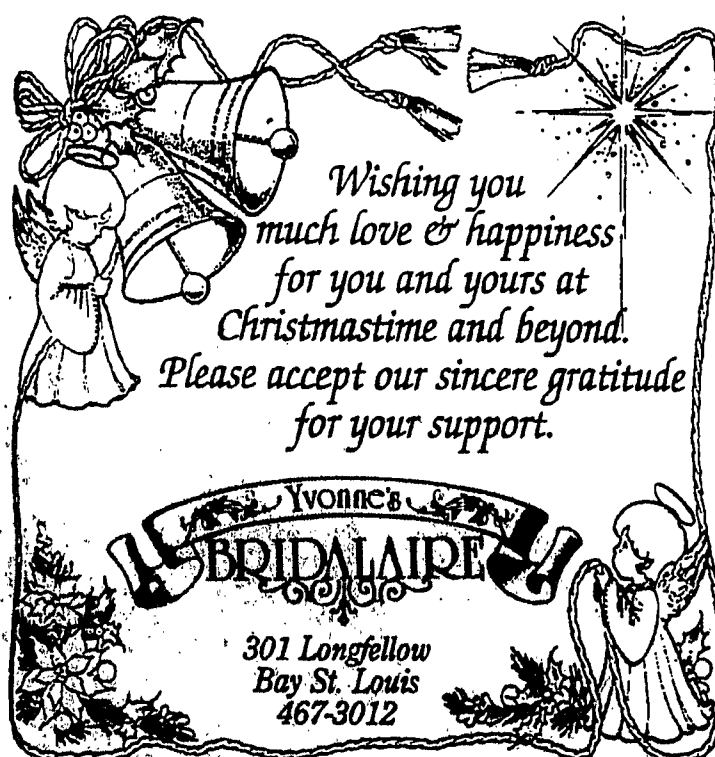
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Weddings



Mr. and Mrs. John Necaise

Necaise-Cook

Kerry Ann Cook of Biloxi and John Joseph Necaise, also of Biloxi, were united in marriage Nov. 2, 2002 in Oranjestad, Aruba. Registrar C. A. Christians officiated followed by a religious blessing on the beach

at sunset.

The bride is the daughter of Joel and Jo Frances Cook of Saucier.

The groom's parents are the late Reno Joseph Necaise and Lois M. Rowley of Bay St. Louis.

Caillet

Continued from Page 3B

were. Miranda Compretta, Michelle Knight, Amy Goscinski, Sandra Compretta, Jami Chiniche, Betty Chiniche, Marsha Garziano and Dori Garziano.

In November, a "Honey-Do" and Bridal shower was hosted by Diane Caillet, Shelley Guillems, Christy Steib, Monica Caillet, Karen Caillet and Mynette Zimmer in the home of the grooms parents in Luling, Louisiana.

The Bridal Luncheon, hosted by Karen Compretta,

mother of the bride, was held on the eve of the wedding at "The Chimneys Restaurant" in Gulfport.

Prior to the wedding, a formal rehearsal dinner was given for the wedding party at "The Palace in the Pass", historical Beachfront Mansion, located on Scenic Drive in Pass Christian, Mississippi. Mr. and Mrs. Kerwin Caillet, the parents of the groom, hosted the gala affair. The bridal couple was showered with many toasts and well wishes.

PRCC Christmas special today on WLOX-TV

Pearl River Community College will present a televised Christmas special at 2 p.m. today on WLOX-TV showcasing more than 200 of the school's musically gifted students.

The special is entitled, "A Pearl River College Christmas Card," and will feature the Pearl River Singers, River Road, The Voices, The Pearl River Brass, and The Spirit of the River Marching Band.

Dr. Mark Malone conducts The Pearl River Singers, a 46-member choir that has toured Europe and performed during mass at the Notre Dame Cathedral; The Voices, a select ensemble of PRCC singers who perform throughout the six-county district; and River Road, PRCC's showchoir that has traveled to New York City, Washington, D.C. and a host of other locations to perform.

The Pearl River Brass, conducted by Archie Rawls, is a talented group of musicians who perform on the opening selection on the TV broadcast. PRCC's marching band, The Spirit of the River, conducted by Dr. Kyle Hill, delivers spirit at college sporting events and parades. The PRCC students will be performing both sacred and secular musical selections such as "Carol of the Bells," "What Child is This," and "Ding Dong Merrily."

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Births

COOPER STEVEN COOKSEY

Mr. and Mrs. Steven W. Cooksey of Waveland announce the birth of their first child, Cooper Steven, Dec. 3, 2002 at 1:40 a.m. at Hancock Medical Center in Bay St. Louis.

He weighed 8 pounds 10 1/2 ounces.

Mrs. Cooksey is the former Lisa Yarborough.

Maternal grandparents are Gary and Evelyn Yarborough of Bay St. Louis.

Paternal grandparents are Michael and Judy Cooksey of Waveland.

Great-grandparents include Beryl Murtagh of Bay St. Louis, the late Edward "Eddie" Murtagh, the late Claude and Edna Yarborough, Darah Cooksey of Newton, Miss., the late John T. Cooksey and Mr. and Mrs. James Favre.

ANDREW RUSSELL DANKO

Kristi Angle and Kenneth Danko of Bay St. Louis announce the birth of their first child, Andrew Russell, Dec. 9, 2002 at 4:05 p.m. at Hancock Medical Center in Bay St. Louis.

He weighed 8 pounds, 6 ounces.

Maternal grandparents are Marian and Charles Angle of Bay St. Louis.

Paternal grandparents are Barbara and Russell Traina of Kiln.

Great-grandparents include Carmelia and Gene Leimkuhler of Kenner.

BLAIZE COLOMBE CROSS

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Herrington Cross of Granbury, Texas, announce the birth of their first child, Blaize Colombe, Oct. 25, 2002 at 8:20 a.m. at Harris Methodist Hospital of Erath

County, Stephenville, Texas. Blaize weighed 6 pounds, 9 ounces.

Mrs. Cross is the former Rachel Pope.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Pope of Bay St. Louis.

Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Richard Cross of Gulf Breeze, Fla.

Great-grandparents include the late Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Favre, Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Pope and the late Margaret Cross and Widmer and Colombe Hansen.

CHADWICK PATRICK COLSON II

Chadwick P. Colson and Amanda M. Meyer of Waveland announce the birth of a son, Chadwick Patrick II, Nov. 27, 2002 at 8:03 a.m. at Hancock Medical Center in Bay St. Louis.

He weighed 8 pounds, 2 ounces.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Philip DeBram of Waveland and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Meyer of Slidell.

Paternal grandparents are Curtis and Roxanne Colson of Waveland.

Great-grandparents include Mr. and Mrs. Frank Meyer of Covington, Virginia Monlezun of Waveland, Helene Adams of Waveland and Joanne Colson of Lakeshore.

Chadwick is welcomed by sibling Kelsey.

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with our thanks
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May the Lord spread His light on you and your loved ones as we celebrate the birth of His only son. We know we feel truly blessed to share this joyous occasion with people like you. Please accept our thanks, along with our best wishes for a meaningful holiday season.

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Merry Christmas

Nothing renews our spirit more than to see our friends and neighbors help each other each day in big and small ways. We join you and your family in praying for peace on earth this holiday season.

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32 Kids--A big home

The children who are grown are all productive and hard working individuals, she said, people who are contributing to the community that they live in. Because of that, we feel we are making a difference. Though they are not related biologically, they still are brothers and sisters and compare the looks of their own children when they are born as any members of a family would do.

The McDowells began their adoptions with two healthy, white infants, Nancy said, a boy and a girl. When we wanted more we were told that there was a long waiting list. But, we were also told that if we would consider older children or children from other ethnic backgrounds or special circumstances, that there were plenty of children who needed homes. We said that of course we would.

"People think that there is a shortage of children to adopt but there isn't," she said. "There are plenty of

children who need loving homes."

For many years Nancy ran a daycare from her home, but laws changed regarding home daycare and when there were no longer a crowd of children to care for every day, she said she decided to get some of her own to care for, permanently, she said.

How do the McDowells manage such a large family?

"It may sound silly to some people," Nancy says. "But for the most part, it is God who has met our needs and through him the community has also helped, the church (theirs is The Church of the Good Shepherd in Pass Christian) and many individuals and businesses. And of course Drew, who has a good job."

You have to be thrifty, Nancy said, and she shops the thrift shops for clothes. Many businesses contribute food and other items to the family. Right now they are in the mist of building a larger home, located in Pass

Christian on 10 acres of land donated by a friend.

The home will have 17 bedrooms, and ten and a half bathrooms compared to the present house in Long Beach that has nine bedrooms and three bathrooms. The new home will be 8,500 square feet of living space for the large family.

"The foundation looked like a skating rink and it now looks like a big hotel," Nancy said. "It is located on a ridge and every where you look you can see God's wonder."

A typical day begins in the neat and tidy house (yes neat and tidy) at about 6 a.m. when the children rise to get ready for school. Some of the older girls rise earlier, to primp, Nancy says. Breakfast during the week usually consists of easy things like cereal or pop tarts, she said almost apologetically.

"We don't do eggs and all the trimmings except on the weekends," she said.

Everyone has their job and the floors have to be

Continued from Page 1A

swept and mopped after every meal. Supper preparations usually begin about 4 p.m. for a meal at 6 p.m. Beds are made as soon as the occupant awakens.

"It is just easier to keep up with things as they come up," she said.

Weekends are filled with getting ready for the next week. Laying out clothes, ironing, laundry and more, a routine. And of course, church.

The neighbors here have great around here in putting up with us, said Nancy. I know we are a handful. Even though the children are well behaved, just the volume of them makes for a noisy play time when they are outside.

We will be so thankful when we move to the new house where they will have lots of room to grow and play.

With Warm Regards...



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Gardening--Rocks

Continued from Page 1A

Another excellent and economical use of rocks is to create outdoor rooms using flagstones. Flagstones are available in several colors, one of which is sure to complement your home. They also come in several sizes.

Those with a more luxurious pocketbook use flagstones with mortar and create patios, driveways and sidewalks looking as though they should be pictured in a magazine. Those with a more restrained budget still can set flagstone in the soil.

The biggest consideration for the floor is making sure it is level. Since all the rocks are not the same size or thickness, the depth of the hole or indentation where

they will be placed will have to vary, too.

The first thought most designers have is that the rocks should be placed fairly close together. This can be a matter of taste. There is nothing wrong with a three- to four-inch spacing between rocks. This allows the use of plants like creeping thyme in between the rocks.

Next to the wall of the house, you can create a room that may resemble a courtyard or out in the landscape, it can be surrounded by evergreens for a private sitting area.

I made a small courtyard at my home using about 1,400 pounds of a blue-gray flagstone. It was a fun proj-

ect. I created pockets for perennials, used an iron trellis on the wall and an iron bench for sitting.

If I can do it, believe me, anyone can. Look around your landscape and see if a few rocks can turn problem areas into assets, adding value to your home.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Norman Winter is a horticulturist with Mississippi State University's Extension Service. His office is located at the Central Mississippi Research and Extension Center at 1320 Seven Springs Road, Raymond, MS 39154.

He can be heard weekdays at 7:19 a.m. on Public Radio in Mississippi.

Views--Dogs

Continued from Page 1A

That is, they would lay with their hindquarters toward me and their heads pointed out. Sometimes the head would be tucked back in my direction, but the body was always oriented away from me. It took years for me to realize there was a reason for all this and that in doing what they did, they were paying me an very personal compliment.

The pattern around me, in fact the reason they came in the room to lay around me when I took a nap, was an inherent act, peculiar to pack animals. They were forming their bodies into a sort of perimeter defense.

So, when I laid down and went to sleep and, in effect, became vulnerable, I was immediately enclosed in a

defensive circle of noble canine warriors.

When viewed that way, this commonplace act by these loyal animals that for a too short a time shared my life, was a wondrous thing.

So in answer to Stella's rebuke, I am happy to pass on this small bit of wisdom I got from a very close friend years ago:

THIRTEEN THINGS YOU CAN LEARN FROM YOUR DOG

1. When your loved one comes home, run to greet him.
2. Take naps.
3. Eat with gusto.
4. When it's hot, drink lots of water.
5. Take naps.
6. Never bite, growl. If it's a friend, growl silently.
7. Give unconditional love. Do this twice each day. Increase this amount on weekends and holidays
8. Take naps.
9. Stay close to your loved one in times of stress. Get closer when things get worse. Get as close as you can when things get very bad.
10. When you want something badly, dig for it. Dig hard.
11. Take naps.
12. If you are happy show it, wag your tail.
13. Take more naps.

Have a Purr-fect Holiday!

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Engineer finds diversity provides strength to expand boundaries

NASA's Mark Moody, a staff engineer in the Propulsion Test Program Office, credits his parents with helping him appreciate diversity. He praises Stennis Space Center for seeking diversity to strengthen its role within NASA and its working community.

"My parents were instrumental in providing me with exposure to a variety of people from diverse backgrounds and cultures," said Moody. His mother, now retired, worked as a registered nurse in a hospital and public school system. His late father was a retired Army colonel and civil servant in the U.S. Department of Labor.

"Being provided with a broad exposure while growing up contributed to my understanding that my possibilities weren't limited to the boundaries of my own back yard."

Moody came to Stennis as a combustion devices engineer for the Rocketdyne Division of Rockwell International in 1988 from the Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans, where he spent three years working as a tool design engineer for

Martin Marietta on the Space Shuttle External Tank Program.

He joined NASA at Stennis in 1994 and was initially assigned to the Office of Safety and Mission Assurance. Currently, he works in the Propulsion Test Program Office within the Program Integration Office.

"Over the last 14 years, I have seen Stennis grow both in its tasks and responsibilities to NASA and in its role as a federal community," he said.

"Stennis has successfully assumed increasing responsibilities in the propulsion test arena. We've done this by upgrading and expanding test facilities, limiting duplication and attracting new talent and new programs.

The real estate here looks really different than it did in 1988."

Moody said another way Stennis has grown is by adding to the number of civil servants employed.

"We have a good mix of people with diverse backgrounds and experience," he said. "It's been good for Stennis. The diversity of our workforce has expanded Stennis' boundaries and has made almost any-

thing possible."

Born in New Orleans, Moody received his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Southern University in Baton Rouge, La., and a master's degree in management from Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne, Fla.

He serves as board secretary for the National Rocket Propulsion Test Alliance, which is an alliance between NASA and the Department of Defense.

"The alliance is the most active of six NASA/DOD coalitions and was formed to shape the government's rocket propulsion test capability to efficiently meet national test needs," said NASA's Mike Dawson, manager of the Program Integration Office at Stennis.

"This is done by sharing people, equipment and processes through intra- and inter-agency cooperation. Mark is engaged in NASA and DOD program development, design and tests in support of Stennis' Propulsion Test Program office. Mark is helping us lead the Agency's and nation's



Mark Moody

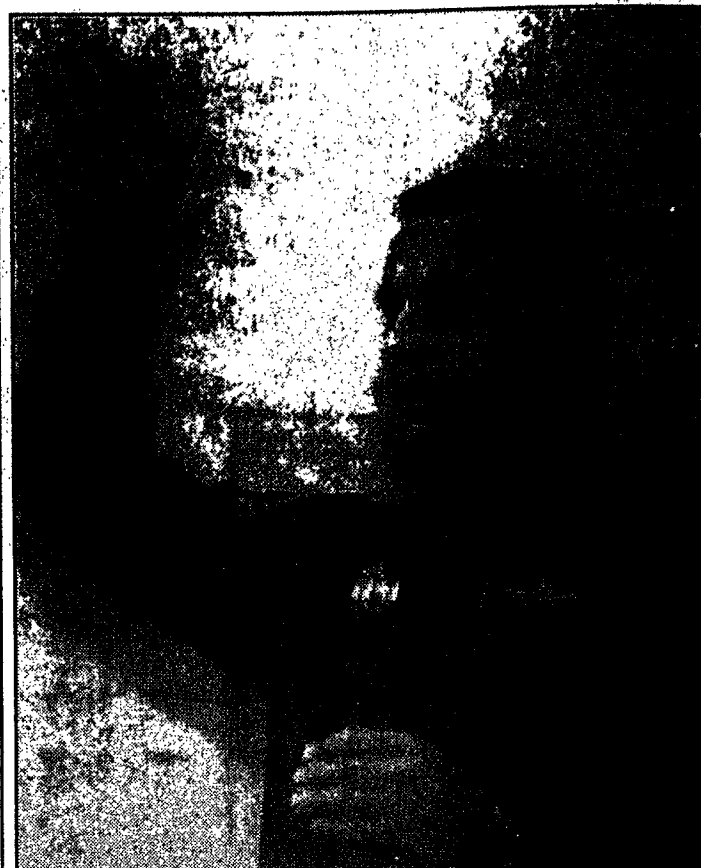
rocket test activity."

In addition to his work with the alliance, Moody serves as the Propulsion Test Program Office liaison engineer to Marshall Space Flight Center and is responsible for interfacing with test personnel at both centers.

Moody is married to the former Lynette Muckelroy, a computer science teacher. They have three children: Jaime, 17; Shari, 15; and Jonathan, 10.

Moody is a major in the Louisiana Army National Guard where he serves as an executive officer for an engineer battalion. He is cubmaster of Jonathan's scout pack.

Spaceman



Echo staff photo by Shannon Jenkins

Astronaut Lt. Col. Lee Joseph Archambault spoke to students at Stennis Space Center on Dec. 13 about his career with NASA. Students from Folsom Junior High in Folsom, LA, W.C. Griggs Elementary in Mobile and Roy Abrams Elementary in New Orleans were present. Archambault, selected by NASA as astronaut pilot candidate in June 1988, has logged more than 3,000 flight hours in more than 30 different aircraft. He is currently assigned to the Astronaut Office Shuttle Operations Branch, working on flight instrument upgrades for the Space Shuttle Cockpit Council. He will maintain a technical assignment until assigned to a future Space Shuttle flight.

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Appetizers include such favorites as fried green tomatoes with lemon cream sauce. A cool salad topped with coconut shrimp is always a winner.

The most popular dinner served at Court Street Station is becoming quickly known by word of mouth. It is the "Seafood for Two" dinner. Included on this mile-high plate is four fish fillets, a generous portion of gulf shrimp, plenty of fried oysters, two crab cakes, hushpuppies and your choice of salad or slaw for two and two orders of a potato of your choice, baked or fried. Bring a hearty appetite for this one!

Desserts include homemade bread pudding with caramel rum sauce and a chocolate volcano brownie topped with ice cream.

A newly decorated banquet room accommodating seating up to 100 is available for your special party or gathering. Just give our event coordinator, Millie, a call.

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Make your reservations now for their New Year's Eve Jammin' Celebration and the best party on the Bay. Live music all night by the Hozey & Brown band. \$125.00 per couple includes appetizers, complimentary cocktail salad & choice of three delicious entrees, dessert & complimentary bottle of champagne at midnight. Noisemakers too! Seating is limited, please call 467-3636 for reservations.

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Hawks Holiday Happening

Hancock County school bands host holiday concert for family, friends and faculty



Members of Hancock County schools' bands present a holiday concert Dec. 10 in the Hancock High School gym. The 6th-grade band, 7th and 8th-grade band, the Hancock High Chorus and the Hancock High School Band all performed for a large audience of parents, teachers, peers and other visitors.

Echo staff photo by Shannon Jenkins

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American Cancer Society gets connected

Recognizing that no one understands what it's like to have cancer better than those who have experienced the disease themselves, the American Cancer Society helps cancer patients and caregivers connect through its Cancer Survivors Network.

This unique virtual community, created by and for survivors, offers an array of services for survivors and loved ones to connect with one another, share experiences and offer support.

The Cancer Survivors Network is free and accessible 24 hours a day via telephone at 1-877-333-4673 (HOPE) or by visiting www.cancer.org.

Visitors can access pre-recorded discussions, as well as participate in moderated chats and Web casts. They can also create personal Web pages, explore suggested resources, post poems, stories and songs, and e-mail other registered users.

In addition to the Cancer Survivors Network, the American Cancer Society continues to provide support and resources to cancer survivors and others touched by this disease by connecting them with local support groups, providing college scholarships to young cancer survivors and hosting survivor celebrations at Relay For Life events.

For more information on the American Cancer Society or its programs, call 1-800-ACS-2345 or visit the Web site at www.cancer.org.

The American Cancer Society is the nationwide, community-based, voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives and diminishing suffering from cancer through research, education, advocacy and service.

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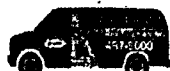
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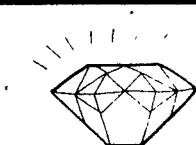
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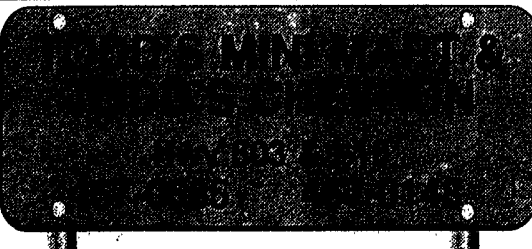
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REFLECTIONS
ON LIFEBy Father Jerome
LeDoux, SVD

Wishing nullifies Christmas

Compliments of Senator Trent Lott, the Republican party sent the Democrats an extra-early gift for the holidays - certainly not Christmas! - in the guise of a prize quotation.

The setting was the 100th birthday party of the South Carolina senator, where Lott's praise for Thurmond was lavish.

"Mississippi is proud to have voted for Strom Thurmond in his 1948 presidential bid as a Dixiecrat," he told the other celebrators. "And if the rest of the country had followed our lead, we wouldn't have had all these problems over all these years either."

As many powerful storms do, clouds began to boil up over the better part of a week and gradually gather their total energy into one fearsome package.

Muffled rumbling became a thunderclap causing all hell to break loose, first locally, and soon erupting into a firestorm in all the media and all the people.

There could hardly be a deeper or more telling study of human nature than the rich mix of racial, political, social and moral confusions which ensued. Many Democrats, of course, seized upon the incident as a heaven-sent gift by whose manipulation they could bring the Republicans to heel.

Soon analyzed and dissected to death, the infamous, racially insensitive remark became a hotbed of spilled ink, crackling airwaves and ubiquitous discussion.

Surprisingly, it came to light that the Democrats have been the racist party historically, while the Republicans initiated and passed a civil rights bill way back in 1866 and were leaders in the omnibus bill of 1964.

"Let him who is without sin cast the first stone," (John 8:7) quickly became the operative phrase de jour. "A plague on both their houses!" is the only appropriate attitude we can have, since there is fault, failure and blame enough in each party to go around. Hold those stones, folks!

Caught in a moment of intellectual constipation and verbal diarrhea, Trent Lott initiated a CYA operation, plunging into a series of mea maxima culpa interviews which, as some astutely pointed out, underscored his at least onetime opposition to the Civil Rights Movement, the greatest nonviolent, successful event in world history since Mahatma Ghandi's in his heyday.

However, the problem behind the problem is being overlooked in the rush to spin the Lott blunder from a variety of angles. That problem behind the problem is an attitude, a mind-set, a vicious habit which runs counter to everything the Christmas

story has meant since the King's very birth: the horrible habit of feeling good, exultant about the misfortunes of others.

This ugly habit was evidenced strongly after the Republican victories in the recent elections. Although they claimed loudly that they would not gloat, it was clear that they were indeed gloating over the fall of their enemies.

On the other hand, the Democrats did the same thing when a couple of their candidates won more recent elections. In the instances of both the Democrats and the Republicans, there was gloating, downright glee. Now the nasty attitude is even more in evidence after the Lott blunder.

The Germans have a perfect word for it: schadenfro, which means taking malicious delight in the misfortunes and/or imperfections of someone else.

A curious quality of this destructive little vice is that it is found in host ill-wishers regardless of race, ethnicity, sex, class, nationality or profession.

Most strangely of all, such gloating, basking in malicious delight, or ill-wishing worms its way into every venue, every arena, every situation and organization in life, even churches where their very essence is supposed to be well-wishing springing from the most fundamental message of Christmas.

Yes, some churches are schadenfro when other churches stumble.

Malicious delight, ill-wishing is most publicized, most projected in the limelight in notorious, headline-grabbing episodes in politics, in religion, in sports, in entertainment and the world of megabusiness.

So strong is this evil little vice that ill-wishers sometimes derive more pleasure from the falls and tragedies of others than from their own good fortune and successes. Amazingly, those highly publicized instances of malicious delight are only the spectacular, newsy episodes of life. They are not our main problem. Our main problem is our very personal, very individual, very intimate feeling of satisfaction and well-being because of the failing, indiscretion, misfortune, failure, costly accident or stark tragedy of a person or group of people.

This vicious attitude is found literally everywhere: in the closest intimacies of family life, in the sacred precincts of church worship, in the treasured bonds of friendship, in every personal relationship we have with anyone in any situation of life. The standard of well-wishing has not changed in 1970 years: "Peace on earth, good will toward all." (Luke 2:14)

The "Word" for the Week
Jesus, Mary and the Angel

Dennis J. Prutow • Box 303, Sterling, KS 67579

Christmas is just around the corner. Are you ready for it? Perhaps not. You may be one of those people who disregards the traditional story.

After all, what is all this business about a young woman, a virgin, having a baby and then calling that baby God's Son?

Well, the Bible is very clear about what happened to Mary. An angel was sent from God to visit with Mary and to explain to her why she would have a baby.

"The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy offspring shall be called the Son of God" (Luke 1:35).

You see the story of Christmas is not just a fantasy. It is a story of the supernatural but it is not a fantasy. God really does exist.

He always had a Son who lived with Him in heaven. And God the Father along with His Son and the Holy Spirit are the one true God. If

we cannot fully comprehend this, it is because we can never fully comprehend God.

The Bible also teaches that God the Father determined to send His Son into the world for people like you and me. How would He do this?

He selected a young woman named Mary. And He determined that His Son should take on human form through conception in Mary's womb by the power of the Holy Spirit.

This means that the child would be holy which means sinless. And this also meant that Mary's child was truly God's Son. Yes, the story of Christmas is a supernatural story of how God sent His Son into the world.

And to celebrate Christmas, you must believe this story and trust in the Savior, Jesus Christ.

To hear more on the same topic, call toll free for the "mini-message of the week," 1-800-777-0389 or visit www.w-e-m.org.

Scripture Says . . .

By Ed Young

Some 700 years before the birth of Christ, Isaiah predicted that He would be born. (Isaiah 7:14)

"Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son and shall call his name Immanuel."

Jesus Christ was born into this world to show and bring mankind back to the Heavenly Father.

But, as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the children of God. (John 1:12)

Jesus' mission was this very thing; the Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that

are bruised.

Isaiah predicted this also. (61:1-2)

Luke also wrote of this. In the heart of our Heavenly Father rings out His love for us. It sounds out these "words daily."

The Lord is your Shepherd. He leads us beside still waters and green pastures.

He loves us with unconditional love to such a degree, He allowed His only begotten son to die and pay for our sins.

The message of Christmas is to get to know Jesus and His love for us. Jesus' free gift is eternal life.

Did you receive that free gift yet? Ask Him for eternal life - and really enjoy Christmas.

Merry Christmas

St. Ann-St. John Church News

Father John Kelly, pastor, 228-467-4746

Mass Schedule:

St. Ann Catholic Church, Lower Bay Road, Saturday Vigil Mass, 4 p.m.

Sunday masses: St. John Catholic Church, Lakeshore Road, mass at 8 a.m.; St. Ann, 10:30 a.m.

Weekday masses (St. Ann): Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 8:30 a.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Visitors are welcome.

Dec. 15: CCD Youth Mass, 10:30 a.m.

CCD classes, grades K-5 and 6 through 12 will resume Jan. 13; RCIA classes will resume Jan. 6 at 7 p.m.

Dec. 24: 4 p.m., Christmas CCD Mass, St. Ann, Vigil; 6 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass, St. John

Dec. 25: 9 a.m. Christmas Mass, St. John; 10:30 a.m. Christmas Mass, St. Ann

Father Kelly and parish staff wish all a very Merry Christmas.

St. Joseph Catholic Church events

Dec. 24: Midnight Mass at 12. Before Mass at 11:30 p.m. will be the Pasada. (The Pasada is a reenactment of the search for a place for the birth of Jesus. There will be no morning mass.)

Dec. 25: Christmas Day Mass will be at 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Jan. 1: Mass will be at 10:30 a.m.

Christmas Food Baskets: Please remember the needy. We need donations to make up food baskets.

Christmas Poinsettia: Those interested in placing a poinsettia on the altar for Christmas, in memory of or in honor of, please see Sharon Graham after mass. Price of each plant is \$10.

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Military Mention

PFC LAFONTAINE
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Pfc. Cole E. LaFontaine was graduated Nov. 14 from Fort Jackson, S.C. He was in Alpha Company 3, 13th Infantry Regiment.

During the nine weeks of training, LaFontaine qualified as a sharpshooter and 1st Class grenadier.

LaFontaine is the son of Ronnie and Lois LaFontaine of Lakeshore and grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Knight of Picayune and the

late Lawrence and Iona LaFontaine of Lakeshore. He is a 2001 graduate of Hancock High School.

He will continue his studies in aviation at Fort Eustis, Va. until April 2003.

PO1 FRISBY

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Milton F. Frisby, a 1982 graduate of Pass Christian High School, recently departed on a six-month deployment to the Arabian Gulf while

assigned to the guided missile destroyer USS Milius, homeported in San Diego.

Frisby is one of more than 8,000 Pacific Fleet Sailors aboard the ships of the USS Constellation Carrier Battle Group ready to participate in Operation Enduring Freedom.

USS Milius is one of the most powerful warships ever put to sea. The computer-based AEGIS weapons system is the heart of the ship's warfighting capability. It centers around a powerful radar that enables the crew to detect, track and fire on more than 100 targets at a time.

AIRMAN DEDEAUX

Air Force Airman 1st Class Nina L. Dedeaux was graduated from basic mili-

tary training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises, and special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

She is the daughter of Ruth and Kenneth Dedeaux of Cuevas Pass Christian.

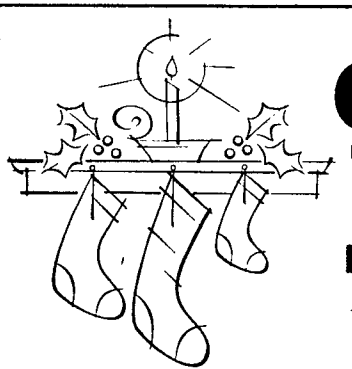
Dedeaux is a 199B graduate of Pass Christian High School.



Trimmed With Best Wishes
May your heart be filled with the love of family, the warmth of good friends, and the light of faith - all the trimmings for a truly joyful holiday season.

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"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."
-Luke 2:14

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Home Delivery Now Available

Hancock Medical Center hosts Hero Blood Drive

Gifts to buy, baking to do, trees to trim, packages to be wrapped and parties to attend. What else needs to be done this week?

How about donating blood and saving a life this holiday season?

The holidays historically cause a shortage of blood donors because people are busy with Christmas activities. Unfortunately, the need for blood does not stop just because the calendar says it's December.

There is an urgent need for blood donors over the next two weeks. Patient needs can only be met if people continue to donate blood throughout the holiday season.

In an effort to help prevent any emergency shortages, Hancock Medical Center will host an American Red Cross Holiday Hero Blood Drive on Monday, December 23 from noon until 6 p.m. The drive will be held at the main entrance of the hospital, 149 Drinkwater Blvd. in Bay St. Louis and is open to the community. Donors will receive a holiday t-shirt as a thank you for giving blood at such a critical time of year.

Over the holidays, patients will continue to need blood transfusions to treat their cancer, leukemia, and anemia or for their surgeries or emergency needs.

Accidents will continue to happen, and may even increase at this time of year. Fires will occur

causing victims to rely on blood donors, and children will need their chemotherapy treatments and blood transfusions.

You can help make sure our community has the blood it needs to help those people who must spend their holidays in the hospital.

All blood types are needed. Currently, supplies of most blood types are below levels. There is a critical need for O positive and O negative types since there is less than a one-day supply of each.

The American Red Cross strives to keep at least a three-day supply on hand in order to be able to meet hospital orders and have a back-up supply available for emergencies.

O negative blood is the universal blood type and is used frequently for trauma victims and for babies and young children. It can be transfused to any patient no matter what their blood type.

However, a patient with O negative blood can only receive O negative type blood. O positive blood is the most common blood type. It is also the type that hospitals require most often for their patients since about 38% of the population is type O positive.

For more information on giving blood, sponsoring a Red Cross blood drive or volunteer opportunities with the Red Cross, call the American Red Cross at 1-888-432-5663 or 896-4511.

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*Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year*

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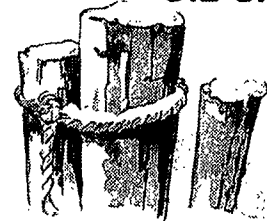
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At The Holiday Season*



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- Sunday
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- Friday NOON
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56 Services Offered

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4BR HOUSE, 2,443 SQ. FT. 118 Grass St. Idlewood Subdivision, Waveland. Reduced. 467-3601, or 255-5326, 341-3601.

CUTE, CUTE, CUTE! Total Remodel! Everything new! 3BR/2BA near beach, Waveland. Large lot, quiet street. 410 West 4th. \$87,000. (985)863-3020.

FOR SALE WAVELAND 3BR/1BA house. Cent/heat/air. Near beach. Large fenced yard with pecan trees. Plus garage cottage in rear. Plus road access to back of property available with room to build. 105K or best offer. Call 467-1605.

GULFPORT - SWAN LAKE. Beautiful 3BR/2BA. Custom built, brick home. Owner transferring. \$167,000. 868-6563 or 832-9284.

I WILL PAY TOP \$ FOR YOUR PROPERTY, any condition. Will pay all closing cost. Agents protected. O/A. (504)908-7653.

OWNER FINANCING: AN ACRE PLUS in Waveland, off St. Joseph. 3br/2bath, under construction, brick, fireplace, cathedral ceiling. Gold Coast, 228-467-4479.

161 Condo Rental/Sale

FOR SALE BY OWNER 528 NORTH 2nd St. Sherwood Heights. 2BR/2BA in exclusive private location. Granite counter tops, fire place, hardwood floors, pool, recently renovated. \$132,000. 228-332-5431, 228-467-5984

LAKESIDE VILLA STUDIO CONDO, for rent. Located next to Diamondhead Country Club. \$420/month plus deposit. 255-6535.

Public Notices

(UNAUDITED)	
DIAMONDHEAD FIRE DISTRICT	
Statement of Revenue and Expenses	
October 1, 2001 through September 30, 2002	
Income:	
Donations	\$ 1,405.00
Fire fees	618, 125.52
Garbage fees	171,511.76
Interest	3,273.02
Late fees	4,911.55
Tax income	163,210.09
CPR income	185.00
Total Income	962,601.94
Expenses:	
Payroll Expenses	655,223.97
CPR Expenses	285.74
Dues and Subscriptions	730.00
Garbage Expense	155,382.91
Gas and oil	2,476.91
Hydant materials	4,931.55
Insurance	16,902.00
Interest Expense	25,415.60
Office Expense	17,123.07
Professional Fees	4,173.39
Repairs	32,144.52
Small Equipment Purchases	3,447.58
Supplies	12,461.95
Training Expense	2,440.89
Commissioner Fees	2,858.60
Uniforms	1,053.00
Utilities	14,044.33
Total Expense	951,096.01
Net Income	11,505.93
12/22/02	

Public Notices

SAND & GRAVEL ♦ CLAY GRAVEL
FILL DIRT ♦ TOP SOIL ♦ LIMESTONE
Also Land Clearing, Bulldozer and Trackhoe Work
255-3082

Public Notices

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HANCOCK COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
RICHARD ALLEN INGRAM, BURCH LEWIS INGRAM, JOY GAYLE INGRAM GIPSON, AND L. L. RENICK, PLAINTIFFS
JACK WILLIAM GALLEY, BARBARA ELLEN GALLEY, RONALD J. BANKSTON, JR., STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, AND ANY AND ALL PERSONS HAVING OR CLAIMING A LEGAL OR EQUITABLE INTEREST IN AND TO LOT 11, BLOCK 804, SHORELINE PARK SUBDIVISION, UNIT HANCOCK COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, DEFENDANTS
CAUSE NO. 2002-2449
SUMMONS

(Service by Publication: Residence Unknown) TO: A. JACK WILLIAM GALLEY, IF ALIVE, OR IF DEAD THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF JACK WILLIAM GALLEY, DECEASED; B. BARBARA ELLEN GALLEY, IF ALIVE, OR IF DEAD THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF BARBARA ELLEN GALLEY, DECEASED; C. RONALD J. BANKSTON, JR., IF ALIVE OR IF DEAD THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF RONALD J. BANKSTON, DECEASED; D. ANY AND OTHER PERSONS HAVING OR CLAIMING ANY LEGAL OR EQUITABLE INTEREST OR TITLE IN AND TO THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT. ALL OF WHOM ARE NON-RESIDENTS OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI AND WHOSE LAST KNOWN ADDRESS IS UNKNOWN AFTER DILIGENT SEARCH AND INQUIRY AND WHOSE PRESENT ADDRESS AND RESIDENCE ARE UNKNOWN AFTER DILIGENT SEARCH AND INQUIRY.

You have been named Defendants in the lawsuit filed in this court by RICHARD ALLEN INGRAM, BURCH LEWIS INGRAM, JOY GAYLE INGRAM GIPSON, AND L. L. RENICK, Plaintiffs. The Complaint filed against you has initiated a claim alleging that as the owners, fee simple of the property described as follows, to-wit: Lot 11, Block 804, SHORELINE PARK, Unit 8, B.S.L., \$850/month. 467-5011. You are required to mail or hand-deliver a copy of a written Answer either admitting or denying each allegation in the Complaint to Clement S. Benvenuto, the attorney for the Plaintiff(s), whose address is 125 Court Street, Post Office Box 585, Bay St. Louis, MS 39520. THIS ANSWER MUST BE MAILED OR DELIVERED WITHIN THIRTY DAYS FROM THE DATE OF DELIVERY OF THIS SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT OR A JUDGEMENT BY DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU. YOU MUST ALSO COMPLY WITH OTHER THINGS DEMANDED IN THE COMPLAINT. Witness my signature and official seal this 19 day of November, 2002. (Seal)

Lamnell Scarborough
DEPUTY CLERK
CLERK OF COURT
12/22/02 01/05/03

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
The Hancock County Water & Sewer District will receive competitive sealed bids to be filed with the office, 1113 Highway 90, P.O. Box 2759, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, until 10:00 a.m. on the 10th day of January 2003 and shortly thereafter publicly opened for providing the following:
ONE (1) NEW COMPACT MOTOR GRADER. Detailed specifications may be obtained from the Hancock County Water & Sewer District Office, 1113 Highway 90, P.O. Box 2759, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi or by calling 467-6208. All envelopes must be marked "Bid Enclosed" and state the item bid on.
Hancock County Water and Sewer Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.
Published by Order of the Board of Commissioners of Hancock County Water and Sewer District, this 13th day of December 2002.

Eddie Ranz, Jr.
Secretary/Treasurer
Hancock County Water and Sewer District
12/22/02 01/05/03

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HANCOCK COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
HANK A. CROOK, DEPT. CLERK OF HUMAN SERVICES, BY ZADIE ROGERS, SOCIAL SERVICES REGIONAL DIRECTOR, AND JARED LEE BERTAUT, MINOR, BY AND THROUGH HIS NEXT FRIEND, ZADIE ROGERS, PETITIONERS
VS.
MELISSA SUZAN BERTAUT AND JERRY LEE BONNER, RESPONDENTS
CIVIL ACTION, FILE NO. 2002-755
CHANCERY COURT SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI and Jerry Lee Bonner, who are not to be found in the State of Mississippi on diligent inquiry and whose post office addresses are not known to the Petitioners through diligent inquiry made by said Petitioners. You have been named Respondents in the suit filed in this Court by the Hancock County Department of Human Services by Zadie Rogers, Social Services Regional Director, and Jared Lee Bertaut, a minor, seeking to terminate your parental rights as those rights relate to said minor and demanding that the full custody, control and authority to act on behalf of said minor be placed with the Hancock County Department of Human Services.
YOU ARE SUMMONED TO APPEAR AND DEFEND AGAINST THE PETITION FILED AGAINST YOU IN THIS ACTION AT 9:30 O'CLOCK A.M. ON THE 12TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2003, IN THE COURTROOM OF THE HANCOCK COUNTY CHANCERY COURTHOUSE AT BAY ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI, AND IN CASE OF YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR AND DEFEND JUDGMENT WILL BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF DEMANDED IN THE PETITION.
You are not required to file an answer or other pleading, but you may do so if you desire. ISSUED under my hand and seal of said Court, this 9 day of December, 2002. (Seal)

TIMOTHY A. KELLAR, CHANCERY CLERK
HANCOCK COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
BAY ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI 39520
BY: Erica Candebat
Deputy Clerk

M. Earl Scales
Social Services Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General
P. O. Box 220
Jackson, Mississippi 39205-0220
Telephone No.: 359-4216
MSB#8393
12/15/12/22 12/29/02

Give a Gift Subscription
The Sea Coast Echo
467-5473

Public Notices

INVITATION TO BID
Sealed Bids for the School Parking Lot Improvements addressed to Bay Saint Louis/Waveland School District will be received at 201 Carroll Avenue, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. local time on the 17th day of January, 2003 and then will be publicly opened and read. Any bids received after the time and date specified will not be considered and will be returned unopened.
Bids being submitted by mail should be addressed to the Bay Saint Louis/Waveland School District, 201 Carroll Avenue, Bay Saint Louis, MS 39520. The drawings for the construction are entitled Alternative School Parking Project and consists of two (2) sheets dated December 2002. The project is for the base repair and overlay of the alternative school parking lot located on South Beach Boulevard.
Contract Documents may be examined at 201 Carroll Avenue, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi or at the office of the Design Engineer, Compton Engineering, P.A., at 3059 Longfellow Drive, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. A copy of the documents may be obtained at the office of Compton Engineering, P.A., Post Office Box 2735, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi 39521, upon payment of \$50.00, which includes shipping and handling for each set. Return of the documents is not required. The amount paid for the documents is nonrefundable.
For information regarding this project, contact Compton Engineering's office at (228)467-2770 in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi.
Each bid must be submitted on the prescribed form and accompanied by a certified check or bid bond executed on the prescribed form, payable to Bay Saint Louis/Waveland School District in an amount not less than 5 percent of the amount bid.
The successful bidder will be required to furnish the necessary additional bonds for the faithful performance of the Contract, as prescribed in the Contract Documents. All performance bond, payment bond and certificates of insurance shall be either executed by or countersigned by a licensed surety agent of the surety or insurance company having its place of business in the State of Mississippi and whose license is in compliance with the insurance laws of the State of Mississippi. Further, the said surety or insurance company shall be duly licensed and qualified to do business in the State of Mississippi.
In order to perform work for projects over \$50,000, the successful bidder shall, as applicable, hold or obtain such Contractor's and business licenses as required by state statutes including certification of responsibility required by Section 31-3-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended. Bidders' certification number, or a statement that the Bidder is not a "small business" shall appear on the outside or exterior of the envelope or container of such bids, failing which said bid shall not be opened or considered. Changes for this bid shall not be made by notations on the exterior of the container of the bid.
Before a Contract will be awarded for the work contemplated herein, the Owner will conduct investigation as is necessary to determine the performance record and ability of the apparent successful bidder. The successful bidder shall perform the size and type of work specified under this Contract. Upon request, the bidder shall submit such information as deemed necessary by the Owner to evaluate the bidder's qualifications. For information concerning the proposed work, or for an appointment to visit the site of the proposed work, contact Compton Engineering, telephone (228)467-2770.
It is called to the attention of the Bidder that the time of completion of the work under this Contract is the essence of the Contract.
The right is reserved to reject all bids or any bid not conforming to the intent and purpose of the Contract Documents, and to postpone the award of the Contract for a period of time which, however, shall not extend beyond 90 days from the bid opening date.
Board of Trustees
Bay Saint Louis/Waveland School District
Richard Flowers, President
Dr. Kim Stasny, Superintendent
12/15/12/22/02

INVITATION TO BID
Sealed bids will be received by the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources until 10:00 a.m., January 15, 2003, at 1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 101, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530, and shortly thereafter publicly opened for the purpose of removal and disposal of the following derelict vessels located in Hancock County at Bayou Caddy near Bayou Caddy Fisheries. The derelict vessel is described below:
"Rough Times", a wooden hull vessel, measuring approximately 55'8" X 17'2", D265172, located at Bayou Caddy.
The project shall be completed sixty (60) days from issuance of the contract.
Note: A site visit is required prior to placing bids. The successful contractor will be required to notify the Department of Marine Resources at least 24 hours prior to the start of the project. The following documents will be required after contract award:
DMR Permit to remove
Environmental assessment
Specifications will be supplied upon request from Irvin Jackson, (228) 374-5022 Ext. 5016, or Pat Daughdrill at (228) 374-5022 Ext. 5190. It is anticipated that one contract will be awarded for this effort.
Under existing condition, the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources will not accept bids that do not contain a firm stated price without any reservations as to price increase of any kind after date of contract. The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids. All bids received after the 10:00 a.m. deadline will be returned unopened.
Address an envelope containing the bid complete with requested bid information as follows: Mississippi Department of Marine Resources 1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 101 Biloxi, Mississippi 39530
At: Irvin Jackson
In the lower left-hand corner, write "Sealed Bid for Removal and Disposal of Derelict Vessels" to prevent opening without time mail
12/22/02 01/05/03

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WAVELAND ON THE 30TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2002, AT THE CITY OF WAVELAND POLICE DEPARTMENT, 628 HIGHWAY 90, WAVELAND, MISSISSIPPI, AT 6:00 P.M. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:
A. Revoke the existing variance of 4' from the required height requirement and also a variance of 64 square feet from the required square footage in order to erect a sign to be located at 461 Highway 90.
Legal description NW 1/4 of the SE 1/4, Section 34-8-14W, City of Waveland, Hancock County, Mississippi.
ALL INTERESTED PARTIES MAY ATTEND AND HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD.
For additional information phone 466-2549, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday
Christine Gallagher
Zoning Official
12/15, 12/19/12/22/02

Public Notices

CAP LOAN PROGRAM
HANCOCK COUNTY
Public Notice

The Board of Supervisors, acting for and on behalf of Hancock County, Mississippi (the "County") took up for consideration the matter of authorizing and approving a loan on behalf of the County from the Mississippi Development Authority (the "Department") for the purpose of completing capital improvements identified as follows:
Construction of a building to house a technology company at the Stennis International Airport.
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HANCOCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AS FOLLOWS:
Section 1. The Governing Body of the County does hereby declare its intention to enter into a loan agreement with MDA in the principal amount not to exceed Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) for the purpose of completing the capital improvements identified above.
Section 2. The Loan will be secured by a Note executed and delivered by the County to MDA. Failure of the County to meet its repayment obligations shall result in the forfeiture of sales tax allocation or homestead exemption reimbursement in an amount sufficient to repay obligations due until such time as the indebtedness has been discharged or arrangements to discharge such indebtedness satisfactory to MDA have been made.
Section 3. The Governing Body proposes to authorize and approve the Loan from MDA in the amount and for the aforesaid purposes at a meeting of the Governing Body to be held at its regular meeting place at the County Courthouse in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, at 9:00 o'clock a.m. on the 22nd day of January, 2003, or at some meeting held subsequent thereto. This date assigned to authorize and approve the aforementioned loan documents has been set to meet program requirements which mandate that four public notices be issued prior to loan closing. This will allow sufficient time for public comments.
The motion having received the foregoing vote of the governing body, the President declared the motion carried and the Resolution adopted, on this 19th day of December, 2002.
YEAS: Supervisor Lynnie Ladner
Supervisor Rodrick Pullman
Supervisor Lisa Coward
Supervisor Steve Seymour
Supervisor Jay Cuevas
NAYS:
Rodrick Pullman, President
Hancock County Board of Supervisors (SEAL)

Timothy A. Kellar, Chancery Clerk
12/22/02 01/05/03

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Bay St. Louis Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on the proposed rezoning of Lot 28 and 29, Paradise Point Subdivision, First Ward, Bay St. Louis, Hancock County, Mississippi, parcel #144M-18-019. It is zoned R-1.

MICHAEL HEIDINGSFELDER - application for an 18' variance to the rear yard setback to construct an addition to a single-family residence. The property in question is located at No. 4 Paradise Point Drive and described as Lots 28 and 29, Paradise Point Subdivision, First Ward, Bay St. Louis, Hancock County, Mississippi, parcel #144M-18-019. It is zoned R-1.

MICHAEL HEIDINGSFELDER - application for a 5' variance to the side yard setback and a 13' variance to the rear yard setback to construct an addition to a single-family residence. The property in question is located at 215 S. Charles Street and described as west 85 ft. of Lot 149, Fourth Ward, Bay St. Louis, Hancock County, Mississippi, parcel #145M-20-182. It is zoned R-2.

PAUL C. DROBISH - application for a side yard variance to construct an addition to a single-family residence. The property in question is located at 249 Sycamore Street and described as Lot 170, Third Ward, Bay St. Louis, Hancock County, Mississippi, parcel #149M-2-30-052. It is zoned I-1.

WILLIAM J. ADAM - application for a special subdivision plat approval and special exception to construct a triplex building in an R-2 zone. The property in question is located on St. Charles Street at USX railroad and described as Lot 165, Fourth Ward, Bay St. Louis, Hancock County, Mississippi, parcel #137R-0-44-045.

STEVEN KINNEY - application for a 15' variance to the rear yard setback to construct an addition to a single-family residence. The property in question is located at 346 Easterbrook Street and described as Lot 189A, Third Ward, Bay St. Louis, Hancock County, Mississippi, parcel #145M-1-29-025. It is zoned R-3.

Additional information for the above mentioned is available for review during the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday in the office of the Clerk of Council, City Hall Annex, 111 Court Street. All interested parties are urged to attend.

PAUL C. FAIRCLOTT
CLERK OF COUNCIL
12-22-02

Southern Regional
Wastewater Management District
Request for Statement of Qualifications
for Wastewater Engineering Services
The Southern Regional Wastewater Management District of Hancock County, Mississippi requests Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) from qualified engineering services to support the implementation of the Pearl River Wastewater Facility Plan. These services will involve providing the professional engineering services required to:
A. prepare and complete the Mississippi DEQ permit application process;
B. detailed engineering and design of 1. collection system through Friday in the office of the Clerk of Council, City Hall Annex, 111 Court Street. All interested parties are urged to attend.

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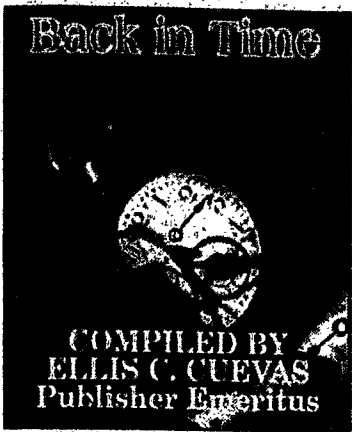
PAUL C. FAIRCLOTT
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1942 – Chinese government honors former Waveland man, a Gen. Doolittle bombardier



TEN YEARS AGO

December 10, 1992 – Former Heavyweight Champion Larry Holmes was in Bay St. Louis Wednesday at Casino Magic to promote his January 5 fight with Houston's "Bigfoot" Martin. Casino Magic will sponsor the fight which will be televised live on USA Network's Tuesday Night at the Fight.

– Some say clothes make the man. In 23-year-old Deputy Travis Foreman's case, clothes saved his life. Foreman, a three-year veteran of the Hancock County Sheriff's Department was caught in a shootout Sunday in Shoreline Park. Fortunately he was wearing a bulletproof vest.

After responding to a domestic dispute, Foreman exchanged fire with a suspect, and his girl friend who shared the trailer where the shoot-out occurred.

During the exchange of fire, Foreman was hit in the lower right chest. The bullet did penetrate the vest, but it made only a small scrape wound on Foreman's chest.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

December 9, 1982 – Waveland Mayor Johnny Longo, Aldermen Bob Hubbard, Barbara Rappold, Herman Yarborough, and Louis Smolensky officially assumed their duties during ceremonies conducted by former City Judge Lucien Gex Tuesday night at city hall.

Hubbard is the only newcomer to the board. The salary of the mayor and aldermen was set at \$450 and \$200 per month, respectively.

– Brother Martin Hernandez of St. Stanislaus High School in Bay St. Louis received the 1982 Adjutor Hominum Award as the outstanding alumnus of Loyola University in New Orleans at a Loyola homecoming luncheon December 3. Brother Martin, a member of the Hancock General Hospital Board of Trustees for some eight years, is at age 78 years the oldest Brother of the Sacred Heart in the New Orleans Providence.

FORTY YEARS AGO

December 6, 1962 – Board of Supervisor President R.G. Hubbard, Jr. Friday told U.S. Senator John C. Stennis, "I'm not worried about competition after my trip to Cape Canaveral," and the senator commented on the natural advantages Bay-Waveland and Hancock County had.

The occasion was Stennis' visit here to talk with local people about problems, primarily those arising from the location of NASA's Mississippi Test Facility in Hancock County.



Ride 'em cowboy!

The year was 1936 when this trio of young men from Bay St. Louis vacationed in Dallas, Texas. Those pictured include the late Tony Compretta on steer; at left, the late Sylvan J. Ladner, former Hancock County sheriff and tax collector; and George diBenedetto, former owner of diBenedetto TV & Appliances, a resident of Bay St. Louis. Photo courtesy of Bay St. Louis Councilman Bobby Compretta, who said the Texas vacation was the only one his father had ever taken. The Echo welcomes photos older than 25 years for publication. They will be returned to their owners.

Bay Mayor John Scafile brought up the need for a sewerage system for Bay St. Louis and explained that Commission Council was almost through preparing the application for federal assistance through CFA.

Representative Clarence Ladner asked if federal assistance for schools such as we understood was made available to when the Sardis dam was built might be forthcoming. Where route 43 would be rerouted was another question that needs early solving so the county can make other plans and Stennis said he already planned to ask NASA to send in the near future someone with authority to meet the local people and go into this matter. As the senator said: "I thin it (NASA) is going to be a good thing, but what direction it will take one can't tell yet."

FIFTY YEARS AGO

December 12, 1952 – U.S. Navy flier speaks to Lyons. The meeting of the Bay St. Lions Club at Hotel Reed Monday was highlighted by a returned Naval officer's report, giving a giving a first-hand story of the Korean air war. Lt. (j.g.) Roger M. Boh Jr., with 99 missions on F-9F Grumman jets, of the USS Carrier Princeton an Essex Class ship of Task Force 77, said this task force is rated "fast" and has operated off the east coast of Korea in close ground support of troops in that area.

– Lt. Boh, a graduate of St. Stanislaus College and Annapolis, is a native of Bay St. Louis. At present with his wife and son, is visiting his parents.

The Navy flier is scheduled to return to combat duty next year. He has been in service since 1944; following graduation from Annapolis, then attended

flight school at Pensacola. He was in Korean waters for seven months on flight duty.

SIXTY YEARS AGO

December 4, 1942 – Staff Sergeant Robert Clark Bourgeois, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Bourgeois of New Orleans, former residents of the Town of Waveland, and nephew of Miss Agnes Bourgeois of Bay St. Louis; who was a bombardier in Major General Jimmie Doolittle's air raid over Tokyo last May, has received a citation from the Chinese Government.

If Staff Sergeant Robert C. Bourgeois, bombardier who made that long hop to Tokyo with General Doolittle in May, ever faces danger again, he has a friend in the Chinese people. Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek said to Tuesday in a citation which was forwarded to his parents.

Sam Wo, a Chinese restaurant operator in New Orleans translated the citation which said, "The army, navy, and air force of the Chinese government present this honor to Robert Carl Bourgeois for outstanding service during the Tokyo raid. If ever you are in danger, these forces, representing the Chinese people, will be ready to assist you."

Generalissimo Chiang awarded to Sergeant Bourgeois the Medal of Army, Navy and Air Force, Class 1, Grade A of the Chinese government along with the citation.

Sergeant Bourgeois has not visited his family since the Tokyo raid, but a letter arriving at the same time of the citation said he was now overseas. He was happy, well and 'although there is enough material to write a book some day, little can be said now.'

– Corporal Roland Emile

Collins, young colored man from Bay St. Louis, son of Arsene Collins, who at the present time is stationed with at Detachment of Engineers near Port Moresby, New Guinea, was one of five colored engineers who volunteered to help the Australians stop the advance of Japanese troops in the Owen Stanley Mountain area September 16th.

The Japanese had

entrenched themselves atop the Oribawi ridge against pressure of the Australian troops advancing northward. The Australians asked American troops in Port Moresby to lend them a 37 m. anti-tank gun that could be placed close to the Japanese lines.

There were no American Combat Troops at Port Moresby, so they called upon the colored engineers to furnish the gun and crew, one

of which Collins.

Collins is a member of one of the oldest colored families in Bay St. Louis and the news of his act of bravery in volunteering his services to help destroy the Japanese, is receiving the commendation of the people of his hometown.

His mother is proud of him, and we sincerely hope that he will return to her unharmed at the end of this war.

WITH TIDINGS OF COMFORT & JOY

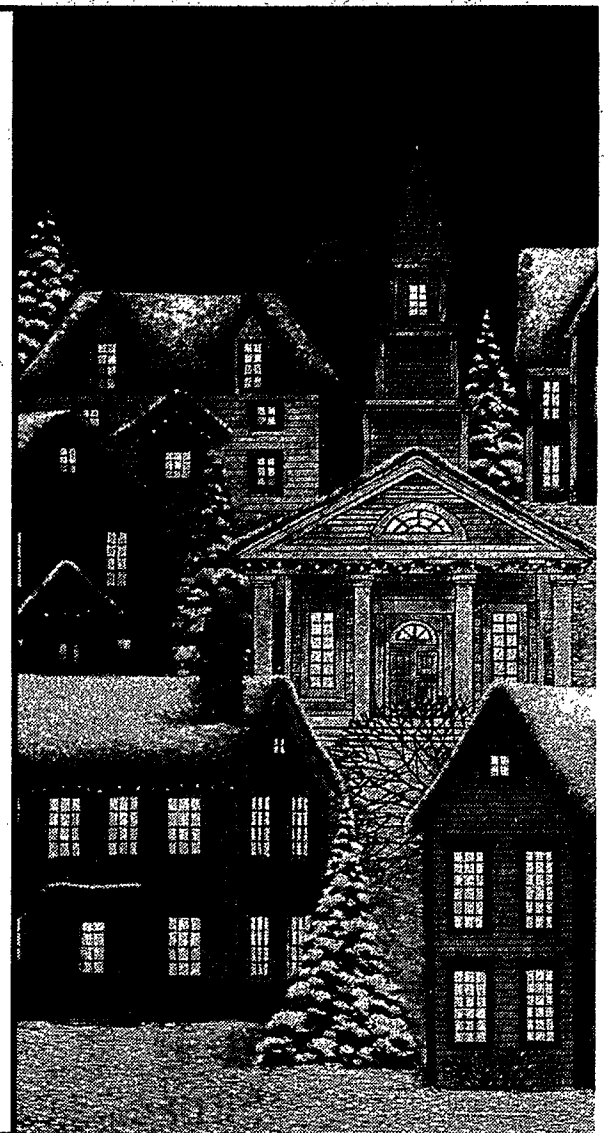
There's no better location on earth, than among friends and neighbors like you!

Happy Holidays to all and many thanks to those we've had the pleasure to serve this past year.

May the new year offer you peace and happiness wherever you reside.

LATTER & BLUM
INC./REALTORS.

1188 Highway 90
Bay St. Louis, MS
467-4111



The Sea Coast Echo and area schools thank the following sponsors for supporting the Newspapers In Education program.

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Rotary Club of Bay St. Louis
The Sea Coast Echo
Waveland Market
Yun Long Buffet

Newspapers In Education is a program in which newspapers supplement traditional teaching materials in the classroom. N.I.E. programs are provided to local schools through paid sponsorship programs.

Newspapers In Education programs teach with the newspaper. Students learn to become critical thinkers through reading, analyzing and discussing newspaper stories and editorials. They use the knowledge they gain to engage in conversations with peers and family members.

If you would like to be an NIE SPONSOR or if you are a teacher and would like to use the Echo's N.I.E. program in your classroom you may contact RITA BREUN, N.I.E. coordinator at THE SEA COAST ECHO 467-5474.

The Sea Coast Echo

N.I.E. and YOU make it possible to put our local newspaper in the classrooms to put students in touch with what is happening in their community. Thanks to you, N.I.E. is possible!

Thanks!

Randy Ponder,
Publisher
Rita Breun,
Circulation Manager



KEESLER FIELD - WORLD WAR II - This post card was post marked March 15, 1943 and sent by Junior Foret, a trainee at Keesler of New Orleans to his Aunt Katie. The card's title is 'Glistening Barracks, row to row, Keesler Field, Miss. Photo is courtesy of Patricia Warden of Lakeshore, a sister of the late Foret. Today, Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi is one of the nation's largest Air Force bases.

Entertainment

'Dreams' at Beau benefits WINGS Performing Arts at Discovery Center

"Dreams - A Celebration of Generations" will be presented by the Beau Rivage Resort and the Lynn Meadows Discovery Center, benefiting WINGS Performing Arts, on Saturday, Jan. 4, 7 p.m. at the Beau Rivage Theatre.

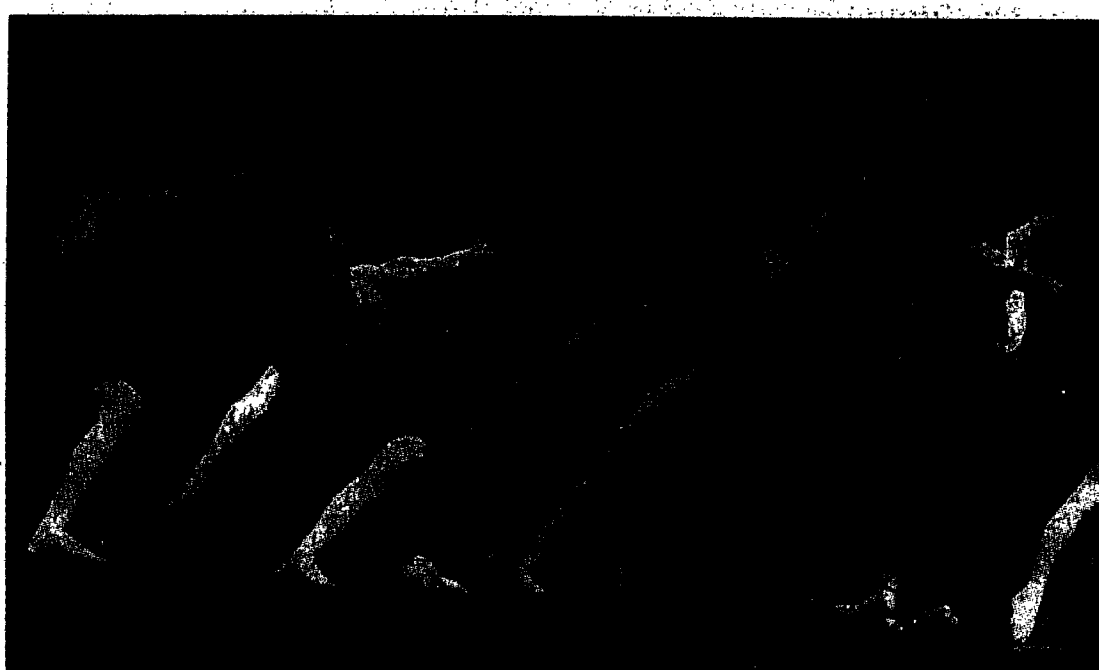
Join us for a heart-warming evening of entertainment as we celebrate the hopes, ideas and dreams of past and future generations. Take a trip through the decades and applaud the music of the past 80 years. From beloved gospel hymns and toe-tapping bluegrass to nostalgic lullabies and sing-a-longs, this event promises to be memorable for all generations.

Emcees are Carole Lynn Meadows, co-founder of the Lynn Meadows Discovery Center, and well known Coast entertainer Mike Lacy.

Special Guests are Alden and Emeril Lagasse who are the National Capitol Campaign co-chairs for the new Wings Performing Arts & Education Center for Children, which is the first one in the state of Mississippi.

More than 200 performers will grace the stage for the event including famed performer and director David Delk and veteran singer and actor Bobby Steele.

Internationally known saxophonist Al Belletto, a New Orleans native, enjoys a career in music performance and education. Formerly the musical director and organizer of the Al Hirt Big Band, Belletto has been named Artist of the Year by the Louisiana Jazz Federation and recognized by the International Association of Jazz. He has appeared on NBC's Today Show and the PBS series



Ballerinas from Ballet Theatre School.

"Jazz Excursions."

Sweet Adelines is a female cappella-style performing show chorus. The all-women ensemble is dedicated to performance and competition in the art of singing four-part harmony in the Barbershop style.

The 30-member group is affiliated with Sweet Adelines International. In the 2001 Regional Competition, the group received awards for placing in "Small Chorus" and "Overall" categories.

Local singer, songwriter and musician Tara Jones' Anthem for Solidarity won a state competition and was sent to Washington D.C. for consideration as the National Anthem for September 11.

Violinist and conductor George Mason has conducted or played for Bob Hope, Rich Little and Andy Williams. For many years, Mason was the conductor

for the Osmond Family.

Rising stars on the Coast entertainment scene include Joel Herr who attends South Alabama and was a child performer in the early days of Coast theatre, talented young guitarist Brooks Hubbard, Jr. and recording artist Angelina Davis whose album was selected as "Spoken Word Album of the Year."

Cast members from KNS Theatre's "The Wizard of Oz" will perform, while young singers, dancers, actors and violinists from WINGS Performing Arts will dazzle the audience with their talents.

Graceful ballerinas from Ballet Theatre School will tiptoe across the stage. The Gulf Coast Youth Symphony will feature 75 of the best young musicians from across the Coast.

Classical guitarist Giovanni de Chiaro has per-

formed throughout the United States, Mexico and Europe. He is a member of the music faculty at USM.

In addition to his teaching and performing scheduled, De Chiaro arranges and transcribes for the guitar. He has published a five-volume set of teaching materials and numerous transcriptions.

More recently, he published guitar transcriptions of the complete works of Scott Joplin, the only such collection available to date.

Composer and musician Buddy Dubourg has recorded numerous CD's and has performed with several local groups, most notably with the jazz duo Powerglide.

General admission tickets are \$20. Limited tickets for a pro-show reception with the Alden and Emeril Lagasses are \$125 each and include hours d'ouevres, cocktails and floor seating for the performance.

For information or to order tickets, call the Lynn Meadows Discovery Center at 897-6039.

DREAMS
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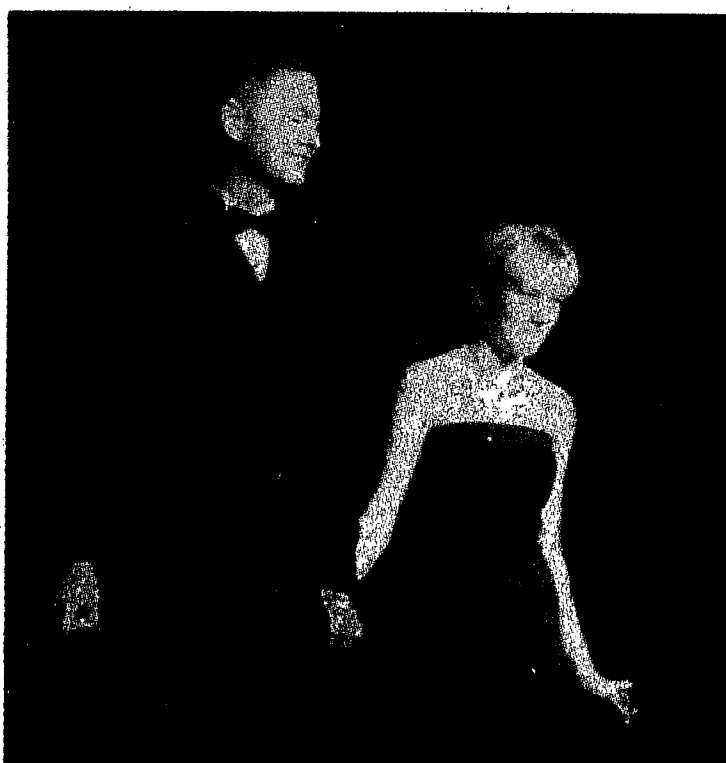
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Coast entertainer David Delk with WINGS performer Ingram Brooks.

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